

# **School Places at Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools**

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## **Consultation Responses**

## **Dobcroft Infant School Governing Body:**

We refer to the ongoing consultation process in respect of the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant school.

As a governing body we recognise the pressure on spaces that has evolved over recent years in the South West of the City. We do not wish to see any 'in- catchment' children turned away from a school within the region. Equally, we have a duty to ensure the wellbeing of pupils at Dobcroft Infant School both now and into the future.

We outline the governors' considerations as follows.

### **2015 decision**

We note the temporary expansion of Dobcroft Infant School in 2015 has already been decided and will make separate representation in this respect. The council should, however, be aware that the absence of any consultation and openness in the decision making process has alienated parents. The lack of trust and sense of betrayal cannot be underestimated. The decision is a short sighted fix to a perceived immediate problem that is not evident from the data. Current forecasts suggest that 2015 will have no greater pressures than 2014. This temporary expansion will result in more 'out of catchment' admissions building pressure in later years, due to increased sibling preferences.

The perceived need for this temporary expansion stems from 2014 applications, which were with the council in January 2014. It is of immense frustration that it took almost 12 months for the council to reach a decision, and then leave just 6 months for the school to put all the necessary resources in place. The school will cope with these enforced changes primarily because we have a proactive staff and leadership team. Although we would expect the council to provide sufficient funds to support the accommodation of 30 more children who will be with both schools for a total of 7 years, whatever the 2016 decision.

### **2016 consultation**

We welcomed the opportunity to consult on the 2016 decision. We appreciate the time taken by council officers to address our numerous questions and opportunity to analyse their data. The drop in sessions also enabled parents to air their concerns.

The length of the process is up for debate but the lead in period of less than a week has not helped alleviate the scepticism of the process held by many. The school had little time in which to liaise with parents and no information with which to allay any fears. At no point have the council attended our school to explain the issues to parents. Those officers who attended drop in sessions were able to write things down, but not set out the issue in a way that enables parents to engage in consultation based on evidence.

The lack of detailed information through the whole process has been frustrating to all involved. The data that was made available (current numbers in age cohorts from 0-3) led many parents to reach the conclusion that there is no issue in our catchment. This has created considerable anger and frustration amongst parents and the wider community. Staff and governors at the school have borne the brunt of this anger, which seems wholly unjust and avoidable had future forecasts been presented in a way that estimated the impacts of inward migration and priority applications.

In essence, we as a governing body are being asked to consult on the extension of the school without sight of any detailed solutions to address the obvious impact of 120 more children in a school.

## **The need for additional spaces- data analysis**

The council published population numbers by age and by catchment. When pushed, it made available previous year's population data and percentages of what proportions of children in each catchment chose their catchment school. Our governing body had to piece all this together in order to estimate future pressure in the absence of the council doing that work or putting estimates in the public domain. Whilst the council did usefully publish our analysis under FAQs, it seems unsatisfactory that we had to do this work.

Based on analysis we agree that there is a need for more spaces in the South West region. We equally recognise that this will in part be a result of pressure on the Dobcroft intake. However, the data shows far more pressure on Totley and Ecclesall catchments. It has not been demonstrated at all how the extension of Dobcroft will therefore solve the areas with greatest problems within South West Sheffield. It is also likely to detract from schools such as Holt House and Nether Edge.

We do not want to turn away children from catchment as in 2014. However, the data suggests that the current proposal appears to only solve one part (and not the greatest part) of the problem in the South West Sheffield area. It is completely unclear at present how the anticipated high numbers of catchment applications that are unsuccessful in Totley and Ecclesall will be reduced as a result of expanding a neighbouring catchment school. The forecast pressures based on our analysis are presented in Annex One.

### **DIS capacity to accommodate 90 additional children.**

The infant school site is tight with limited external area. The school buildings are tired and require constant maintenance stretching an already pressurised budget. The school has two mobile units which are in total 36 sq m smaller than government guidance.

There is an opportunity through a thorough planning process to improve the learning experience with new modern classrooms and improved external areas to mitigate any reduction in space. Unfortunately, the council to date has not provided meaningful proposals which might address some of the schools concerns. The initial indicators are that the mobiles will be retained, the community hub extended and utilised as a class room. These proposals fall well short of an acceptable solution and will put unacceptable pressure on the children's learning environment.

We understand the consultation is part of a longer process. However, in order to provide meaningful feedback it is reasonable to expect a decent level of information about how a solution might look.

### **Impact on children's learning environment of a larger cohort and school**

We trust the council has taken due consideration of the impact of year sizes of 120. This will change the school dynamics and impact on the environment particularly for the FS intake. This will put our school alongside Lydgate as the biggest intake in the city. We have concerns about such large intakes being overwhelming for young children, particularly in the transition from pre-school setting into foundation.

The teaching staff are confident that a further class per year can be managed. However, the school will need to be adequately adapted requiring sufficient funding to address the significant issues arising from an increase of 90 pupils. Our concerns about the learning environment include:

- Playground congestion created by extra pupils
- Sufficient classroom space rather than use of mobile units
- Ensuring ratios of toilets & showers to pupils & staff is satisfactory
- Ensuring intervention spaces are within the school
- Pressure on the hall & dining space, which is already extremely congested in terms of lunchtime and PE provision
- Potentially reducing communal resources such as the library and IT space
- Threats to play space as a result of increased buildings on the site, and/or additional car parking

### **Requirements for the extension of Dobcroft Infant School**

Despite the major issues, still not addressed by the council, we acknowledge the permanent extension of DIS may go ahead. In such circumstances, the governing body, leadership and staff team will work with council officers to deliver the best solution for the pupils of this school.

We have considered at great length what would be required as a **minimum** to maintain a positive learning environment.

- To limit congestion in the playground better use of the rear area of the school is required.
- Four new classrooms (removing the 2 existing mobiles) for foundation. Covered areas from each classroom, landscaped areas and outside storage for equipment to meet with the requirements of the foundation stage curriculum.
- New classrooms require their own toilet block with shower facility.
- Intervention spaces in recognition of a number of children's needs.
- A hall area and dance space that can accommodate at least 120 pupils for year group assemblies as well as have enough slots for PE and lunchtime.
- The removal of the library and resultant loss of mitigation space will need to be accommodated elsewhere in the school for KS1 children.
- Additional staff toilets and increased PPA/staffroom space.

### **Highways**

Road safety, traffic congestion and parking are serious concerns. The current situation is less than satisfactory with inconsiderate driving and parking the norm. The addition of 210 pupils many of whom could be out of catchment will only add to the pressure on the surrounding road networks.

We appreciate that traffic issues will be considered as part of any planning application. We also understand that a range of traffic calming, safety and parking initiatives can be put in place to alleviate many problems. They do, however, need to be considered in the context of the current consultation to address issues raised by parents and residents. Additionally, any measures will carry a significant cost.

We note the need for more on site car parking has been discussed by the council. We further acknowledge that there are solutions but primarily to the detriment of the pupil's external environment. To replace playground space with car parking whilst encouraging healthy life styles would be hypocritical. Any solution needs to avoid loss of play space unless the loss is suitably mitigated elsewhere on site.

## **Funding**

We understand the council has budgeted a sum of £2.1m for the extension of both the infant and junior schools. Having spent time reviewing the requirements of both schools we have serious reservations that this figure is sufficient. If the council take the decision to proceed with the extension of the two schools we would expect sufficient funds to be made available to deliver a comprehensive solution which will maintain and hopefully improve the quality of the children's learning environment. A cheap fix for a serious situation, requiring long term sustainable solutions, is not the answer.

## **Conclusion**

As a governing body we entered the consultation process with an open mind. We welcomed the opportunity to discuss details of the council's proposals with its officers and hoped they would in turn fully consult with the schools parents.

We recognise that SW Sheffield has a shortage of places going forward and do not wish to turn away 'in- catchment' children.

The consultation process has been disappointing. The lack of information has left the governing body and parents frustrated, with many unanswered questions.

We are not convinced, from the data, that a Dobcroft expansion solves the problem.

We have yet to have it explained to us by SCC how they assess the impact Dobcroft expansion will have on the surrounding catchments with greater pressure.

Equally, there has been no consideration as to the impact any expansion will have on schools which are perceived to have spare capacity, namely Holt House and Nether Edge. Parents from these catchments are just as likely to change their preference to Dobcroft as those parents in oversubscribed catchment areas which is likely to be detrimental to the subject schools and could affect their long term viability.

We note that council officers had stated they would explore alternative options in case Dobcroft was not viable. These other options seem to have now been dismissed despite certain schools, with fewer pupils, wishing to expand.

We are of the opinion that Dobcroft School has simply been chosen for its geographical location in the middle of the SW region rather than in catchment pressures or the ability to accommodate an expansion on an already tight site.

We are in the dark about the amount of money available for building work and how the council will mitigate the risks and issues we have set out.

**The fact proposals have met such strong opposition, combined with the data showing that Dobcroft expansion will solve only a small part of south west pressures mean we urge you to recognize that at present, you are not consulting on the right solution to**

**the problem. We encourage you to delay a decision to allow time for other options, including those initially not favoured, to be given due consideration.'**

In view of the above, we are not able to support the councils proposals to expand Dobcroft Infant School.

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### **Dobcroft Junior School Governing Body:**

The Governors of Dobcroft Junior School recognise their social responsibility to the need for extra places in the SW of the city. In 2014 there were children from the Dobcroft area who were unable to attend the school, and without the planned expansion this would again be the case for 2015. We support in principle that children should be able to attend their local school. However, we also have a specific responsibility for the well-being of children at Dobcroft both now and in the future.

Following the end of the consultation period on Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Cabinet Meeting which is likely to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015. This is a public meeting. If the proposal is approved at the meeting, it will then be subject to planning permission which will include consultation about, and impact on, local highways.

At this point initial designs would be drawn up and displayed in and around schools which staff, parents and local residents can comment on and input into the final design.

Although the council continues to explore alternative solutions to the lack of primary places in the SW of the city, the Governing Body of Dobcroft Junior School has raised the following concerns should the proposal proceed here:

#### Congestion around the school gates and surrounding neighbourhood

- If the proposal goes ahead, there will ultimately be 840 pupils attending the Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools.
- The above numbers would increase the pressure on the existing roads in the neighbourhood making parking increasingly challenging and potentially dangerous. This is already a well-documented problem for the two schools. Being on a cul-de-sac and in close proximity to both St Wilfrid's and Mylnhurst School, this would compound the issue. Furthermore, the issues around parking are not confined to the Pingle Road entrance but are also in evidence on Dobcroft Road where it meets Silverdale Road and also on Millhouses Lane.
- The proposed extension will accommodate increased demand from outside the catchment, which will guarantee that the majority of additional children are arriving in vehicles.
- The cul-de-sac situation of the school and the tight residential area is an ongoing and significant concern for all existing children and parents at the school and increasing the size of the school to cover the whole of the South West will lead to disproportionate and unsafe conditions in the surrounding neighbourhood.
- We have safety concerns: access to the school is already limited by the fact that it is on a cul-de-sac and due to the sheer numbers trying to park on the neighbouring streets at drop off and pick up times, the proposition would need to be approved by the fire brigade and parking services. Access by the emergency services would be

further hampered by increasing the numbers from 580 to 840 plus the additional staff needed and the additional traffic this would create.

- Suitable modifications would need to be made to the surrounding roads such as one way streets or drop off zones to combat the above issues.

**What measures do the council intend to put in place to deal with these issues?**

**Can the council give us an irrefutable guarantee that the safety of children and residents would not be compromised in any way by the expansion of the schools?**

**Will the council commit to regularly enforcing parking regulations?**

Impact on the school building and site including Health and Safety issues

- While restructuring the school building could prove positive for pupils and the funding currently put aside to improve our buildings would be welcome, none of this is guaranteed and would depend on grants available at the time and negotiation between the school and the architects.
- If expansion were to take place at Dobcroft, additional car parking places would be required for additional staff and this would have to be taken from the existing play area making the playground smaller, yet still having to accommodate additional children.
- If expansion were to take place at Dobcroft Junior School, then additional toilet facilities would be required as the existing toilets were only built to accommodate 240 children.
- Is the kitchen able to cope with the additional numbers and where would the additional children sit to eat lunch as it is already overcrowded in the dining area which doubles as 2 classrooms. If we have a staggered lunchtime, children will have to queue up in the classroom whilst children are working in there, impacting on their learning which would not be satisfactory. We anticipate that this would realistically mean having to install an additional 6 classrooms as opposed to four to ensure the dining room is separate. If replacing the current mobile classrooms were also within the plans, an additional 9 classrooms would have to be built. Does the funding support this or will compromises have to be made?
- Additional children would mean additional staff and support staff. This would affect the day to day management of school, the need for a larger admin team and the requirement of a larger staff room and admin area.
- The school is open plan which means that children need to walk through classrooms to get to other parts of the school. We already struggle with this and the proposed scale of expansion and the impact on lack of circulation space in a school which has no corridors is not feasible without a significant impact on the quality of teaching and education.
- The proposed expansion would lead to less space for the children to play, yet there will be additional children using this space. (490 instead of 370). The field has poor drainage and cannot be used between October and April.
- Our Dobcroft After School Hours (DASH) provision will no longer be able to cope with the additional numbers without itself having an extension.
- After school extra-curricular clubs also have a limited number of places and so an increase in children would make it even harder to get a place at a club.

- Should the proposal go ahead, the school would welcome newer, purpose built classrooms which were self-contained, together with additional toilets and hall space, if there were sufficient funding to support these developments.

**What level of design / planning has taken place?**

**Will expansion cover toilets, dining, hall and sports provisions for an additional 210 pupils and staff?**

**Will the changes to school design take into account the increased pupil traffic and its impact on the children in an open plan school?**

**How do the council intend to deal with the need for extra staff parking?**

**Will there be increased hard areas for the children to play?**

Funding implications

- Any expansion at Dobcroft would need to be fully funded by the LA as both schools have a low revenue funding. This would need to include all resources for the new classrooms.
- Although the expansion would be fully funded initially for the first year, we have concerns that in the future, should numbers drop to between 90 and 120, the per-pupil funding would not be enough to support having an extra teacher. This could result in having to support classes well in excess of 30 pupils.
- Children at Dobcroft Junior School only receive £3,394 per pupil compared to the Sheffield average of £4,000. This shortfall of £606 times 370 pupils has a massive impact on our budget. (£224,220 shortfall). If this figure is multiplied by 490 children (370 + additional 120), this shortfall is magnified (£296,940 shortfall). We do not receive much funding from Pupil Premium to soften this blow as we are in an advantaged area, **so we consider lack of funding to be a major concern to this proposal.**
- Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools both have a larger percentage of children with additional needs (22.3%) compared with both Sheffield (21.4%) and nationally (17.4%). Both schools are popular and are seeing a further increase in children with additional and complex needs due to changes in the SEN Code of Practice. This allows parents to choose a suitable school for their child without having to go through the usual admissions appeal system. Creating additional spaces at these schools will attract additional children with complex needs from across the city, who may need 1:1 or additional adult support, further impacting on both space and budget. The reduction in space on both sites will have an impact on these children and especially those with an Education and Health Care Plans. (EHCP).
- Surveys/research show that pupils with SEND cope and progress well in the smaller, nurturing environment provided by primary schools but cope less well once at the larger, impersonal environment of secondary. Smaller schools are better able to adapt their systems to respond appropriately to the needs of vulnerable pupils.
- A main concern for the Junior School would be the division of the funding. We are concerned that once the infant option has been built, there may well be insufficient funding left to expand the junior site, or that the funding may be withdrawn by future governments.



**How can the council reassure Governors on these issue?**

**How can the council reassure Governors that SEN children at Dobcroft will not be affected by the plans?**

**Can the council reassure us that the SEN withdrawal areas that the school has already created will not be swallowed up by the creation of and need for additional classrooms?**

**Can the LA commit to providing the school with additional space, staffing and resources to ensure that the rights and needs of our vulnerable pupils are not compromised?**

**What assurances will be put in place that funding will be agreed for both schools and will not be reduced after this agreement?**

Impact on the Curriculum- inclusion

- At the moment Dobcroft Junior School runs an annual residential in every year group. Sometimes it is a challenge to find accommodation to support taking 90 children away on a residential experience but each trip is fully inclusive. If a suitable venue for 120 children is required this will impact on residential visits and may mean that residential visits will no longer be able to take place.
- Dobcroft Junior School currently holds two productions each year. We stage plays to accommodate 90 children performing and their parents in the audience. It would be impossible to stage a play with a cast of 120, meaning that we would have to be selective.
- The Hall is not sufficient to allow 16 classes to access 3 hours of PE a week, especially when the weather does not allow children to use the outdoor yards.
- The hall is not large enough to hold whole school assemblies for 120 additional pupils and the staff.
- Planning Preparation and Assessment time for teachers would have to change. At present, staff plan together and the classes rotate around three activities during the afternoon, led by three specialist teachers. If there were four activities, these lessons would become less than half an hour in length, making them less effective for learning.

**How can the council reassure Governors that residential visits will not be impacted?**

**How can the Council reassure Governors that mandatory PE classes and school performances will not be impacted, for example by including expansion of the school hall in building plans?**

Possible Implications for schools in the neighbourhood

- If places at Dobcroft increased and were not filled by children from the catchment area, it will have a domino effect of attracting children from the Holt House and Carterknowle Schools and this in turn would allow children to make the transition from the Nether Edge School to Holt House and Carterknowle Schools, possibly leaving Nether Edge School with empty places and threatening them with possible closure.

- From the chart made available, the figures for the area look set to decrease over the next four years from 487 pupils in 2015/16 to only 400 by 2018/19.

#### Other considerations

- The schools would both become too large and not as personable as at present. 4 form entry (120 pupils per year) is considered by some as too big for a primary. Should the two schools become a through primary school in the future, as others have done, it will be enormous i.e 7 year groups times 120 pupils per year = 840 pupils on roll. This is the size of some secondary schools. In the initial meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November, it was stated by members of the council that their preferred option with primary schools is to have 30 children per class and for there to be a maximum of three form entry in each school.

#### Alternative options

- We would prefer a solution to be found in the Ecclesall schools whereby the Infant School also became three form entry. This would mean that all children in Ecclesall Infant School (3 forms) would be able to move into Ecclesall Junior School (3 forms). The children who currently attend Clifford Infant School would need to be found a suitable junior school for transition. However, this accommodation would not be needed until 2018, allowing plenty of time to find a solution. Could the funding (£2.1 million) that is proposed in the expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools be better spent extending Ecclesall Infant school by three classes and an additional junior school be built on a suitable nearby site e.g. The Bannerdale Centre, or the old Primary Inclusion Centre which is located close to Clifford Infant School? From the chart, the main expansion appears to be in the Greystones area making Ecclesall a nearby suitable alternative if Greystones reaches capacity in the future.
- An alternative solution would be swapping Ecclesall Infant School with Ecclesall Junior School site. This would allow a three form entry at the new Ecclesall Infant site and then an expansion on the current Ecclesall Infant site to house the additional junior school children, including the children from Clifford. Again, part of this expansion would not be needed until 2018.

To support our proposal for a preferred option to take place at an alternative location, please see the chart below which was prepared by a Governor at Dobcroft Infant School, Iain Bradley, Data and Evidence Lead. He has presented a responsible estimate of catchment demand in future years, based on a blend of the best available data as follows:

- a) The number of children in the catchment area population of a particular pre-school age
- b) A weighting for the amount of inward/outward migration that one could anticipate before that group reach school age. This can be done in two ways. Growth as a percentage based on past trends, or growth in absolute terms based on past trends. Modelling both and splitting the difference seems sensible. [let's call this a population growth factor].
- c) A weighting for the proportion of children in catchment who are likely to apply to the school, to estimate the anticipated demand for a place in each catchment school. This can be based on the total number of 3 year olds and the number of those who put their catchment school down as 1<sup>st</sup> preference in each catchment in the last three years. [let's call this a 1<sup>st</sup> preference factor].

Expressed as a formula this is as follows for any future intake:

$$\frac{[\text{Children in Catchment} * \text{population growth \%age factor} * \text{1st preference factor}] + [(\text{children in catchment} + \text{recent migration absolute numbers}) * \text{1st preference factor}]}{2}$$

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**Table 1: Predicted numbers of in catchment applications in future years.**

	Catchment population 1st pref forecast						4 year average places Vs 1st pref catchment apps
	Intake	2015	2016	2017	2018	4 year average	
Nether Edge	60	25	27	28	26	27	-33
Hunter's Bar	90	40	37	47	46	42	-48
Lowfield	60	28	27	27	25	27	-33
Totley	30	39	41	52	49	45	15
Ecclesall	60	84	64	86	78	78	18
Holt House & Carterknowle	60	48	42	34	34	39	-21
Dobcroft*	90	82	99	105	101	97	7
Springfield	30	22	19	20	23	21	-9
Greystones**	90	80	79	63	68	73	-17
Dore	60	61	68	62	57	62	2
Sharrow	60	36	42	40	35	38	-22

\*Modelled at 90 per year, i.e. ignoring the temporary expansion in September 2015

\*\*Current intake of 60 is returning to 90 from 2015

This evidence indicates that although there is a demand for places at the Dobcroft schools in the future, the real demand comes from the Totley and Ecclesall catchment areas. In addition, there are a number of parents in the catchment area who choose to educate their children privately, reducing the strain on Dobcroft.

In addition, the deadline for primary school applications for 2015 is 31st January. This information is key to the decision making process on the future expansion of the school and we request it is made available to all interested parties. The closing date of February 11th of the consultation does not allow for full consideration and factoring in of new information on the current cohort application across the South West.

We have considered the many issues involved and realise that many of them may appear negative. However, the possible lack of funding and its impact on the education, health and safety and well-being of the pupils, both currently on roll and in the future, has to be our prime concern and is of paramount importance. Moreover, we feel that there is a real alternative to the expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools by pursuing the Ecclesall/Clifford or the Totley options. Although costings are as yet unknown, the addition of nine extra classrooms at Dobcroft Junior School and two/three additional classrooms at Dobcroft Infant School has to be weighed up against the costs of expansion at the alternative locations. **We are deeply concerned that the cost of expansion on this scale cannot be met by £2.1m.**

**Have these alternative options been fully investigated and designs costed as, without full information, it would be prejudicial to proceed with a Dobcroft expansion?**

**Is there the option of applying for an extension to the consultation deadline in light of the 2015 primary school application data being available in February 2015 and an opportunity for the school to fully consider and respond to the proposals?**

**Is there an e-forum or web page that parents can access and communicate a shared and collective approach to the expansion?**

The Governing Body of Dobcroft Junior School.

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### **Clifford CE Infant School Governing Body**

On behalf of the Governing Body at Clifford, thank you for taking the time to talk to us on Wednesday night (04/02/2015).

We hope that you took away from the meeting that we have questions about the data which is the foundation of the proposal, and that we are concerned that there has been insufficient regard to the alternative and relatively simple solution that we have proposed as an alternative to that proposal.

We intend to present a detailed proposal which we believe will meet the objective to offer additional places, but we cannot do so within the existing deadline of 11.2.15. The parents of our children will need time to consider the additional information provided to us this evening in order to provide their own contributions to the consultation.

In addition, it also seems from the discussions tonight that there is information which is material to our formal response, which is not yet available to us, and in some cases to the Council. Specifically, and in order to validate the number of additional spaces required, we will need to consider the information which is currently being collated by the Council and which gives certainty to the first choice intake for the September 2015 academic year.

Also, we understand that an architect has been commissioned to explore further our proposal to expand Clifford and that report will be due within the next week. We presume that will take some time to be disclosed to us together with the Council's analysis. We will obviously need time to reflect on the content. We may have questions to ask, and we will need time to relay the responses to our community. In addition the Diocesan Architect needs access from SCC to see the PRU site and the LA Architect needs to look in detail at our current site to inform his report.

As this information is not yet available then we are prevented from providing an effective consultation response, and it raises questions about the fairness of the entire consultation.

**On this basis, we ask you to suspend, pause or extend the consultation for an additional 3 months to allow adequate time for such an important issue to be addressed properly.**

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**Clifford CE Infant School Governing Body Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**Notes on Proposed Expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School**

- The data indicates that most of the need for additional places runs in a band from Ecclesall to Greystones. You should be looking at this area first then coming back to Dobcroft if there is a need.
- Is there a risk that if Ecclesall I is oversubscribed again a short notice expansion will be forced on them either by the council or through admissions appeals? Our main concern is that if this were to happen there must be an assurance that places at Ecclesall J will be increased. Last time this happened places at the Juniors did not increase and this caused a great deal of concern for our parents. We need a guarantee that children who attend Clifford Infants will be able to get a Junior place.
- What options are you still considering if additional places at Dobcroft Infants are not enough?
- We think the figures you are using are a slight misrepresentation as they assume diocesan schools are taking only from the South West. This is not the case.
- Why is the Local Authority proposing Dobcroft? What factors meant that this decision was arrived at?
- How strongly has the Clifford and Clifford Rd PRU been considered? When will the architects report be made available to us?
- Dobcroft parents don't want the expansion, Clifford and Ecclesall parents do. What is behind the Local Authority pushing it?
- In the time you have after the admissions information has been processed do you still have the time to expand Ecclesall Infant's for September 2015 if you need to?
- The concept of Y3 staying at Ecclesall Infant (and possibly Y3 remaining at Clifford would be acceptable to the school.
- It was asked why a new school on the Bannerdale site was not being explored. This was included in a discussion around new housing developments generating additional pupils in the area. Governors stated that if a new school on the Bannerdale site was possible they would happily relocate and become a through school.
- Officers were asked to confirm if increases in secondary places were also being considered?

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## **Ecclesall Infant School Governing Body Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

### **Notes on Proposed Expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School**

- One concern is that many parents who live in the Ecclesall catchment area will want a place at school and not be able to get one. Expecting children to travel to Dobcroft is unfair, there are some major roads to cross and it would create a number of difficulties for parents.
- There will be an impact on the children in terms of both their education, attending a large school with 120 pupils per year and how they interact with their peer group. The children reside, are friends with and attended pre-school with other children who live in the Ecclesall catchment area. It will be harder to form social bonds outside of school if they live so far away from the Dobcroft area.
- We want to ensure that wherever the additional places are located the pupils have enough space and the correct facilities. We feel that a 120 place intake will mean that the size of the size and facilities on offer will come under a great deal of pressure and we are concerned that education will be impacted.

- We question the Council's strategic planning in relation to new housing provision. There are a number of new housing developments in this area and would like to know how the Local Authority are factoring in the new children moving in to this housing with its planning.
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## **Dobcroft Infant and Dobcroft Junior School Consultation: Comments from Drop-in Sessions**

### **Meetings**

Dobcroft Infant School, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 8:45am – 10:15am

Dobcroft Infant School, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Dobcroft Junior School, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January, 8:45am – 10:15am

Dobcroft Junior School, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January, 3:30pm – 7:30pm

### **Themes**

#### **Traffic & Parking**

- Safety of children accessing the site with traffic, no crossings or patrol wardens.
- Any expansion will mean more children on the pavements travelling to school, increasing risk of accidents. (children falling over).
- There is an accident waiting to happen.
- If Dash (after school club) is lost, this could increase the number of car pick-ups at home time.
- Dobcroft housing is very stable. Concerned about traffic and safety with parents driving to the school site.
- Cars on the double yellow lines – all schools have traffic issues.
- This will make the school too large-210 parents bringing children in cars will make it unsafe.
- A Nursery on Millhouses Lane was stopped by planning permission because of the impact on traffic.
- Kids well-being comes first. What about views of kids. Traffic is a worry. St Wilfred's, Dobcroft and Mylnhurst. Concern is that children travelling from neighbouring catchment areas would come in cars.
- Issue of safety for children crossing – a zebra crossing on Whirlowdale Crescent.
- Suggested a volunteer scheme for parents to oversee children's crossing to the school.
- Parents are very concerned about the additional traffic the proposed expansion would lead to and associated safety and parking issues.
- Several parents raised the issue of traffic problems; parking on double yellow lines/blocking of driveways/lack of access to emergency services and buses were examples repeatedly given.
- Serious concerns were raised about the safety of children walking to school with all the extra traffic – it was mentioned that extra school crossing patrols would be needed to avoid accidents happening.
- Any additional places will be taken by non-catchment children who will have to travel to school by car, therefore increasing congestion and pollution.
- Parking is a problem for both parents and local resident and this would only be made worse with more children coming to the school. Will anything be done to mitigate this?

- It is already crowded in this area at pick up and drop off times (there are three schools in close proximity and this is unique to this area of Sheffield) and the safety of children is a concern.
- Is there a possibility of looking at the need for a School Crossing Warden?
- If the proposed expansion goes ahead it will increase in the number families from outside Dobcroft travelling by car into the area to drop-off and collect children from the school.
- This will increase the amount of traffic and congestion on the local roads that are already at breaking point.
- From 08:30 to 10:00 am the roads are a complete log-jam.
- There are no decent public transports routes that service the school, increasing the likelihood that parents from further afield will drive to the school. Other school sites such as Totley and Ecclesall have much better transport links and would be better suited for expansion, limiting the impact on congestion.
- There are number of schools in the area (Milnhurst, Dobcroft, St. Wilfrid's) which all contribute to compound the traffic problem.
- There is already a high risk of road accidents, this expansion will increase that risk. An accident will happen.
- If an accident does happen, emergency service will not be able to get down the roads, increasing the risk of harm to residents.
- The congestion already has a prohibitive effect on resident's lives: we can't have deliveries or workmen visit at school run times: we can't baby sit our grandchild sometimes because we can't get in and out easily.
- Dobcroft Rd and Millhouses Lane are already very congested.
- There are plans to prohibit parking on Pingle Rd; if these plans go ahead it will only contribute to widen the area of congestion.
- There is a complete lack of joined up thinking by Sheffield City Council. You proposed major changes to the road infrastructure in this area in 2011 without taking the views of residents into account and now you propose this! 'You don't give a damn about local people!'
- Traffic a major issue already increase in pupils will mean an increase in traffic
- Parents park zigzag markings
- Suggested making Whirlowdale crescent one-way
- Traffic congestion
- Parking and pollution a nightmare
- All children should be able to walk to a good school. If they can't, we should focus on raising standards not transporting children to other localities
- Parking/traffic
- Child safety concerns due to traffic
- Suggestion of concreting the grass verges on Pingle road create more width.
- My main concern is that traffic and parking at the start and end of the day are dangerous and could get worse. Is there anything that can be done to support with this?
- Staff already park on surrounding roads. This could get worse.
- Could the school send a message to parents on parking, or look to start and persevere with something like 'Footprints Week'? This seemed to have an initial impact on the problem.
- I am concerned that traffic and parking will become worse as a result of the additional pupils. This situation is already dangerous. I would like to know how I can input into the planning process?



- Concern about the traffic and the impact of more children travelling to the site!
- The parking is very bad already – this is close to being unsafe. Why has nothing been done already by the Council.
- How would road safety be managed – will there be more zebra crossings or patrols. What about additional staff car parking.
- The parking has destroyed the verges – 4x4's and taxi-drivers.
- Houses used to have rocks along the verges, but a letter came to ask neighbours to remove them.
- Could we set out parking along Whirlowdale Road, at Woods Section, where it won't bother residents, and for a walking bus to be organised to ferry children across to school
- Concerned about traffic – the drop off.
- This expansion will capture children from the non-south west area, leading to more traffic. Children should attend their local school, not elsewhere. Dobcroft already has a three class intake, four is bigger than other schools; disproportionate in size compared to other schools in the south west.
- Group are against the proposals. All live on roads that back onto the school and there is already too much traffic, both people on foot and vehicular. Parents park over drives when they are dropping children off and there is generally gridlock and chaos at this time of day. Visibility is reduced when there are many cars, leading to safety issues. There have already been a number of accidents.
- Traffic is unmanageable at best and if the expansion goes ahead there will be 200 extra cars at peak time.
- There isn't a bus route so the increased traffic will mean the streets are unsafe for children. The roads are already "jammed", including cars double-parking.
- The increase in traffic is a concern, particularly as it is not feasible for everyone to walk
- There is not enough space for parking in the area
- Traffic is a problem and will be worse with more pupils from outside the catchment area that are likely to be driven to school
- Parking has been a problem, with double parking common and police CSOs involved. This will get worse with more cars.
- How far does planning permission take into account for traffic on surrounding roads?
- People moving to the school catchment area will place more pressure on roads
- Work on getting people to walk to schools would be undermined by more out of catchment parents driving to school.
- Clean air is already a problem on and around Abbeydale Road, more traffic from out of catchment pupils will make this worse.
- Local resident expressed strong concerns about the proposed expansion upon the volume of traffic in the locality.
- This person commented about how school staff are already parking on nearby roads due to a lack of car parking spaces on the school site and that any expansion would just exacerbate this.
- If the decision were taken to permanently expand the school, this would equate to potentially an additional 100 cars using the roads around school at drop off and pick up times. This would result in "an accident waiting to happen".

- Safety in the area around school. Already general congestion. If people are travelling from outside of catchment, there will be even more traffic – 210 extra potential vehicles.
- Transport a concern, especially with more cars coming from outside of catchment – we have no lollipop lady.
- There is already a big problem with parents who are dropping their children off parking across driveways. They ignore the double yellow lines and have even parked on their drive! Worries about safety for children and parents crossing the road. Buses can't get down. It's a massive problem, not just on the immediate surrounding streets but for quite a large area. There are no police or traffic wardens. There will potentially be another 30 cars from September – then if the permanent expansion goes ahead it will be even worse.
- What is the plan to reduce traffic in these streets? Problems in Whirlowdale Crescent, Millhouses Lane, Derriman Drive.
- Worried about traffic problems and that there will be accidents.
- Concerns over traffic/parking and safety issues.
- Traffic and Environment
- The additional places are not for catchment children. This means that large numbers of non-catchment children will attend from outside the community, most of whom are likely to come in cars.
- Parent had concerns over parking, drives being blocked. The district suffers with congestion with neighbouring schools in vicinity.
- Local resident expressed strong concerns about the proposed expansion upon the volume of traffic in the locality.
- If the decision were taken to permanently expand the school, this would equate to potentially an additional 100 cars using the roads around school at drop off and pick up times. This would result in “an accident waiting to happen”.
- Residents are worried about noise and inappropriate parking.
- The Council promotes a ‘walking to school’ initiative but this isn't taken up by working parents who don't have the time. Children should be able to walk to school; there is chaos if they can't. There are many benefits of them walking, including their health and environmental benefits. The streets are too busy between 8.30 and 9am; “you can't move”.

#### **Data and The Need for Places**

- Data analysis does not include Sharrow. This should have been included.
- I question how ‘sustained’ the predict growth will be in Dobcroft. I'm not convinced it will continue indefinitely at the same rate.
- This school is a good school and central, but the numbers don't show the expansion should be at this school.
- Parents were aware that the school catchment area had changed last year and were keen to know how and why they were changed and whether any consultation was carried out?
- Are there proposals to amend the existing catchment areas in 2016/17?
- Parents expressed the view that Dobcroft could accommodate everyone within its catchment area without a problem, so why the need to expand just to take in children from other school catchment areas?
- Was the decision made purely on a cost basis?
- The catchment area demand is not significantly higher than the current 90 places

- Is Dobcroft being proposed because it is the cheapest solution?
- I don't understand why Dobcroft is being proposed. It is clearly not the area of need.
- I'm not sure why it is you are proposing Dobcroft when the growth seems to be focused on other areas.
- Will the proposed expansion target the identified areas of demand? Children living in places like Bradway could gain a place ahead of those the expansion is intended for.
- Parents expressed the view that Dobcroft could accommodate everyone within its catchment area without a problem, so why the need to expand just to take in children from other school catchment areas?
- I don't understand why Dobcroft is being proposed. It is clearly not the area of need.
- I'm not sure why it is you are proposing Dobcroft when the growth seems to be focused on other areas.
- My feeling is that the data does not prove a need for additional places in 2015.
- Thinking that providing places at Dobcroft will help the wider places shortfall in the South West is naïve. For this to work those places would need to be better targeted and admissions arrangements altered. Is this something that can be considered/consulted on?
- Is there a need for an expansion at all and looking at the figures, is Dobcroft the best option?
- I have great concerns about 2015, many parents in the Ecclesall area feel unless admissions arrangements change that their only options will be Nether Green Infants or Holt House Infants.
- Fundamentally I don't think an expansion at Dobcroft will fix the wider problem in the South West and that places will only go to parents from other catchment areas who live very close to Dobcroft. Some Ecclesall Infants parents who are not able to get a place at their catchment school will be left with a poor option.
- There is a letter which said that the infant school could not take a single additional child 14/15.
- How can more children be taken at the Infant school without more space and infrastructure.
- There is no shortage of school places in Sheffield. Dobcroft is oversubscribed so why not channel these children elsewhere? Ecclesall and Clifford are pro-expansion (parents and governors), Dobcroft are anti-expansion – "Not one person wants it [extra class] here." Spaces at Dobcroft are for excess children in Dore and Totley catchment. These would normally feed into King Ecgbert's, not Silverdale but this expansion will give these pupils a choice of secondary school. There aren't many schools with a three-class intake and Dobcroft is already one of the biggest in the city.
- Parents want an actual Q&A session about the proposals but the school don't want it.
  - Q: Is this overspill for children in the Dobcroft catchment or from outside the catchment?
  - Q: Why take children from outside the catchment when children from within the catchment can't get in?
  - Q: Can Silverdale still accommodate Dobcroft if an additional 30 children per year are added to Dobcroft?

- The need for extra places is at Ecclesall and Totley who are “begging for extra classes”. Expanding Dobcroft won’t solve the problem in those areas.
- More money for the school’s current capacity will solve its problems, not extra places.
- Will Silverdale School have enough spaces for when the extra numbers start to filter through to secondary phase?
- Will the catchment area change?
- Within the catchment area, will places be offered to those who live closer to the school?
- Is the catchment area increasing?
- With the pressure for places at Ecclesall she is worried that if her child doesn’t get in there, that she may not also get a place at Dobcroft, and that the places would go to children who live nearer.
- Why extend catchment areas when boundaries will overlap?
- What about the ripple effect how will extra accommodation at Dobcroft affect Silverdale Secondary places
- This has implications for places at secondary.
- They are under the impression that places are not being created in the correct area of Sheffield.
- I would question if the proposed expansion will target the identified areas of demand. Holt House children could gain a place ahead of Ecclesall and Dore/Totley children. We need to make sure the children that need the place get the place.
- Aren’t these extra places going to take children out of Nether Edge.
- Need to consider the transfer to secondary – more places at Silverdale.
- Why didn’t SCC know earlier that there was an admissions problem in the South west
- She doesn’t think the proposals will solve the problems in the Ecclesall catchment area.

### **The Extra Class in 2015**

- Parents also did not get the information in advance about the residents ‘bulge’ class.

### **Buildings, Design & Sites**

- How will the temporary expansion be delivered? i.e. within existing buildings or a temporary provision.
- Catchment not growing – school serves its numbers at the size it is. Cul de sac makes it difficult to manage expansion on the site. Wilfred’s kids merge onto the same road. Pupils from other catchment area (210) would all have to travel to the site. Silverdale pupils also makes it work.
- How would construction be managed on the site – couldn’t it be done in the summer so would conflict with pupils/school. Site is just not conducive to expansion – traffic and fact that it is a bottle neck. Dobcroft I is central but not accessible.
- Suitability of spaces within the school to be able to expand – would need phase dining, PE spaces external, can’t get all children into the hall. Circulation is within class spaces.
- The site is already quite constrained in terms of the demands being placed on it. How would any of the new buildings needed be achieved on the site.

- How appropriate for the site and the number of children will the capital solution be?
- How will the work on site be phased while the school is still operating?
- Parents views on the design need to be taken into account. Schools are more than just their classrooms.
- What would be included in the capital solution and is this purely driven by funding.
- Parents are concerned that the site hasn't the physical capacity to be able to accommodate the proposed permanent expansion (she indicated that the school was already struggling with space for lunches and playtime).
- Appropriate spaces need to be provided. The Library and ICT suite need to be retained and more toilets should be provided. Outside play should be protected. Parents should be informed how any new buildings would work on the site.
- How would construction on the site work?
- What work has been done to look at how the sites could accommodate new buildings while still providing good outdoor facilities?
- How will the capital work be funded?
- There will not be enough space on the site. There are already not enough toilets and I would not want to see a move to three lunchtime sittings.
- Capital funding - £2.1m has been set aside and will not be enough. We need to have this broken down.
- Open plan nature of the accommodation at Junior. Any new accommodation would need to be separate.
- Appeals statement from the school says the classrooms are under sized and the toilets are insufficient and noisy. Adding another 30 children will mean toilets are needed.
- Concerned about Hall and Cloakrooms/toilets.
- Combining the library and IT space will be disadvantageous and there are not enough toilets.
- Mobiles at both I and J don't have toilets.
- Biggest concern is the development of more drop-in pod classrooms instead of the school being developed as a whole.
- It would be a good idea to develop funding for the whole school rather than for individual pods (prefabs).
- The group has concerns around the safety of the actual building work. When will this take place?
- The building is unsuitable; the facilities are inadequate. More toilets are needed.
- Q: Will the school build on the playground?
- 'Will the outdoor spaces be safe with more children in them?'
- Toilets will need checking throughout the day, as hygiene is already a problem, particularly when used by early year's pupils.
  - Children holding back from going due to the toilets' condition is causing continence problems.
- They would like to see the risk assessment done as part of assessing the options and proposing Dobcroft.
- The building is not in a good condition and needs investment in toilets and the roof without an expansion. The PSA already funds outdoor equipment but can't afford to do more.

- Concerns that the building was designed for two classes per year and is already using temporary buildings to have three.
- The school already feels cramped.
- 'Will building works reduce outdoor space and reduce how active the children are?'
- The size of the site and the condition of current facilities the reason for concerns
- Funding concerns – will there be enough additional funding?
- Mentioned a publically available document for looking at space per pupil and building regulations – is this being looked at?
- Funding – is this going to be in place?
- They wouldn't like to see development on the playing fields.
- Have the plans been looked at for where the additional classroom will be built?
- Will the number of toilets comply with building regulations?
- Is there going to be enough capacity for dinners (cooking facilities, space, time for lunch)?
- Mobile classrooms are already used for Year 1's educational provision, would prefabs be replaced with more permanent buildings?
- When would new buildings be built, seems it would have to be a rush job as to not disrupt the day to day running of the school
- What about the reports on feasibilities of other sites?
- Sheffield City Council could identify brownfield sites to build on. Ecclesall Woods suggested as a site.
- Will resources such as caretaking be expanded to deal with extended premises?
- Current playing field provision not accessible for children 3 to 4 months of the year due to drainage problems, the cost of which is extortionate for the school maintenance budget to cover.
- The current prefab buildings are not economical to run with heating them etc, were a temporary arrangement for pupil provision. Alternative arrangements are needed to replace the mobiles and be incorporated into design plans.
- Parents are concerned that the site hasn't the physical capacity to be able to accommodate the proposed permanent expansion (she indicated that the school was already struggling with space for lunches for example).
- If the library is closed in order to allow the expansion; how will the needs of SEN pupils be adequately met?
- Parents are very concerned that the temporary expansion for 2015/16 hasn't fully considered the health and safety and legal implications (i.e. school not being able to meet statutory requirements for the additional 30 children in terms of facilities, space etc.).
- Parents are concerned that the temporary expansion will invariably lead to permanent expansion.
- At Dobcroft Infant, you cannot pick up children from the mobiles, they are not accessible. The parents go in with the children. There are not enough toilets in the infant's, the double mobile has no toilet and drinking water.
- Whatever solution is provided must be appropriate for children with additional needs.
- Detailed plans needed
- Might the schools benefit from investment or will it just be mobile.
- We don't have the guarantees about what we will set or not.

- Investment is needed but there is no certainty for funding. There is no information for parents around provision.
- There are space issues: dining, classrooms, library – but can't make an informed choice until the proposals have been finalised.
- This is an opportunity to get rid of some of the disadvantages the school faces

### **Impact on the Schools (Education & Standards)**

- Feel positive about the school and its achievements
- I am concerned about the size of any potential new classrooms. [Parent asked for reassurance that some sort of formula is used to calculate class room sizes]. I am already concerned that a number of classes are over capacity in terms of teaching space.
- Parents from different areas will negatively affect the sense of community in the school
- Would any addition non-classroom space (i.e. Hall space, break-out areas, enrichment areas, toilets) be included in any potential build? Is there any guidance on how much of this additional space must be provided?
- I know that there are plans to introduce cooking into the national curriculum. What plans does the school have to provide adequate facilities to teach this new area of the curriculum? And these be taken into consideration when design any new provision.
- I have heard that the Infant library we be converted into a classroom to accommodate the temporary expansion. Resulting in the after school club, Dash, moving the much smaller 'Hub'. Dash is vital to the children education and sense of community. I am concerned that the Hub is not big enough and fewer children will be able to attend. I think it would probably result in job loses for existing staff. What provisions will be put in place to ensure that this service is maintained and enhanced to accommodate the temporary bulge and permanent expansion.
- Non-classroom space will be lost if the school is expanded, and there will be a negative impact on the quality of education.
- If Dash has to move to the Hub, it won't be bigger enough. There will be a knock-on impact to other after school clubs. It will have a negative impact on 'community feel'
- If the numbers drop back in future what would happen 1) with the budget and 2) with classes.
- Ecclesall J/Greystones/Sharrow/Lowfield are in the catchment areas which grow.
- We get a lot of statemented children, but revenue funding lags behind.
- Want to know how the school can keep the nurturing environment.
- Larger numbers will create differences for drama, residential trips, dining.
- Parents are convinced that if the expansion were to go ahead, there would be a negative impact upon the quality of education and the outcomes of children are possibly better options for providing the extra places such as at Ecclesall, or by using the Bannerdale site.
- Parents expressed a concern that the school hadn't been inspected for 7/8 years and felt that by increasing pupil numbers this would not help any future inspection result. Comment was made that tighter school budgets meant having to appoint NQTs in place of experienced staff to save money and this may also affect an Ofsted outcome.

- If the temporary increase went ahead, parents expressed concern over the disruption that would be felt by the current children and the effect that this would have on their education.
- If the school becomes 4FE it will need to stagger play and lunch times. I think that this is unfair.
- I would like some re-assurances that the proposal would not have an impact on how enrichment activities and the wider curriculum are delivered.
- Standards at the school need to be maintained.
- Is the expansion of Dobcroft the best thing for the children who live out of the catchment area and will have to travel in to get to school?
- Will the proposed new size of the school put some parents off and is there a risk that this will create a sink school? I have every faith in the school management and think they do a good job at the moment but 4FE would be a very large school to manage.
- Parents are concerned that the site hasn't the physical capacity to be able to accommodate the proposed permanent expansion (she indicated that the school was already struggling with space for lunches for example).
- If the library is closed in order to allow the expansion; how will the needs of SEN pupils be adequately met?
- Expansion would be entirely at odds with the school's ethos and the 'eco school' ambitions at Dobcroft.
- Parents are very concerned that the temporary expansion for 2015/16 hasn't fully considered the health and safety and legal implications (i.e. school not being able to meet statutory requirements for the additional 30 children in terms of facilities, space etc.).
- Parents wanted to know where ICT would be carried out in school in future. They had been told that the current ICT suite was to become the library because the library was being used as a new classroom for the temporary intake. Concern was also raised about having one school hall for the whole school for PE lessons, school plays etc. – how would it accommodate all the extra children?
- Parents felt that getting rid of the temporary classrooms (which had been there for more than 30 years) and replacing them with permanent classrooms would be necessary.
- Having more temporary classrooms on site would seriously reduce the play areas available to children – they are small enough as it is.
- How could school accommodate all the extra children at lunchtimes?
- What impact will additional children have on communal facilities such as toilets, dining and corridors?
- Appropriate spaces need to be provided. The Library and ICT suite need to be retained and more toilets should be provided. Outside play should be protected. Parents should be informed how any new buildings would work on the site.
- Parents are concerned about how the school's budget would be able to meet the additional repairs and maintenance costs following the capital expenditure as the PTA ends up financing most of these costs.
- Parents expressed concern that health issues in school would deteriorate and make things worse than they are now. The toilets are in a pretty bad way, with cisterns already being held together with duct tape and it was felt that having 33% more children in school would only make things worse.
- Parents raised concern over the future of the after school club. Where would it be held? It would be harder for children to enrol as there would be more



competition and this would have a negative effect on children's development. On occasions, parents also rely on the after school club as child care – what would happen if this wasn't available?

- The PSA work hard to raise extra money for the school and it was felt that the expansion would only dilute what could be done with the money raised.
- Dobcroft After School Hours club (DASH). Will the temporary and permanent proposals make any provision available for accommodating before and after school clubs?
- I would be concerned if after school clubs are affected by the expansion.
- What will the impacts on ancillary spaces (toilets, SEN spaces) following the temporary expansion? How will this impact on the overall teaching experience?
- I am worried that the quality of education at the school will be reduced if the expansion goes ahead.
- Will the school still be able to deliver a high standard of education?
- On a whole I think that children's educational experience will suffer.
- The size of the school would be a concern for me. It would be a very large environment and I think it would struggle to maintain the small feel of the school. The resources and facilities supplied to the school would need to support this.
- There are already two lunchtime sittings due to pupil numbers, resulting in some children not having their lunch due to lack of time. How will this be addressed with increased numbers?
- I am concerned that you might look to build a new block on the playing fields. I think the playing fields are important and should be protected.
- While I support the proposal I really think you need to support maintain the high levels of attainment.
- I firmly believe that if this proposal were to go ahead it would have a negative impact on the educations of pupils at the school.
- I'm concerned that we won't all be able to fit in the hall for performances.
- I can understand how you will get the additional classes of 30 in place but I think lunchtimes and break times will be too crowded. If you have to move to staggered lunch and break times this will have too great an effect on friendship groups. I don't think that 4FE would work on one yard at one time and you would end up segregating some pupils. You should be encouraging a smaller community feel.
- To make 4FE work would place extra pressure on staff.
- Extra classes means extra resources needed, the budget is very tight, so school would need support to extra costs, TA's and equipment.
- SEN children – more children would mean more statemented children. Dobcroft's budget is very tight and it makes it difficult to provide the resources for these children.
- I'm worried about the pressure on the facilities at the school, e.g. the lunchtimes and provision of toilets.
- My child was injured at lunchtime. Will there be extra supervision at lunchtime with extra children.
- Concerned about losing the library for 1-1 sessions for SEN children.
- How is the school going to preserve play space and how would children react emotionally if the play space is reduced? Are you looking at alternatives?
- Need to keep the afterschool club – and it would need to expand now.
- 'Dash' are using the Infant library – where would this go?

- This expansion risks losing that close-knit community feel. Dobcroft feels more 'intimate' and local and I am worried about losing that feel.
- The school building itself is unsuitable for extra pupils – in terms of its size and the actual building work that would take place. The logistics of running the school would become harder. The hall can't be made bigger and children are already rushing lunch (to let other children come in) and a longer lunchtime would impact on learning time. This would also impact on the parental community i.e. attendance at school concerts etc. Classroom size issues don't resolve issues around the hall.
- These proposals will plummet the school's Ofsted rating from Outstanding to Satisfactory.
- The school would have to get rid of its forest school area (for room) and therefore lose its eco school status.
- "It changes our school."
- Q: Where will the extra children with SEN go when there isn't enough room for the current intake of SEN children?
- Q: Will lunch breaks be extended for the new intake? This will be detrimental to the running of the school. Children are already queuing a long time for lunches; in future they will opt for cold lunches over hot ones as they can eat them straight away.
- Concerned about the loss of the school library; "the physical geography of the school will be lost."
- A very good school with many benefits for children but an expansion would have an impact on these.
- Increasing the size would mean a loss of teachers' attention on individual children.
- The management of the school during the proposed change is a concern
- 'How will the school manage more pupils at dinner time?' 'Will lunch be longer and if so will pupils have a longer wait between meals?'
- 'Will new permanent classrooms be built?'
- 'Will rooms for interventions for pupils with special needs be lost?'
- 'Is the hall large enough to deal with increased numbers?'
- 'Are there enough toilets?'
- Shared space (e.g. the IT area, the hall, outdoor areas) would be eliminated or reduced
- Pupils would not perform as well in a larger school
- 'How will children cope without a library?' There will be less opportunity for pupils to develop their reading.
- 'Will each pupil's access to IT equipment be reduced?'
- 'Where will the after school club be?'
- School resources will be strained and shared spaces will be lost to make room for classrooms
- Where will the after school club go?
- Will PE time be reduced due to more pupils and a smaller outdoor space?
- Will lunch time be staggered? If so there will be a long wait for pupils between their meals.
- The reduced space could risk children's safety
- The toilet facilities are not large enough for more pupils to use them
- Will the admissions process be affected by the temporary increase? E.g. siblings of pupils in the temporary increase group being more likely to get into the school?

- The size of learning spaces will be reduced e.g. the library
- The after school club helps education and health (through sports) will there be limited spaces for this and more competition?
- What are Jayne Ludlam's thoughts on the school losing its library?
- The IT space will be cramped with more children
- Smaller class sizes are less likely with more children on site.
- Children would have less access to shared learning spaces, including outdoor space.
- The group wanted to know Jayne Ludlam's thoughts on how the quality of learning is affected by expansion.
  - They thought it would reduce focus on learning due to the leadership both managing the change and managing extra pupils.
- Will this work postpone a potential Ofsted inspection?
- Expansion of the school on a fixed site would have a negative impact on child behaviour, interactions and learning.
- Capacity of staff is an issue when dealing with behaviour and will be more so with more pupils
- There is already not enough supervision of current pupils
- The group would like observations of pupil's outdoor behaviour and interactions
- Overcrowded outdoor spaces will make it harder for children to find and spend time with their friends.
- Changes will have an emotional impact on pupils where they have less space
- The leadership capacity is already stretched and managing changes associated with increased size would make this more difficult.
- The school leadership not neutral and their focus seems to be on funding not on children.
- There has been poor staff continuity and this could worsen in a larger setting
- They did not think the school leadership were neutral and appear intimidating to some parents
- They were concerned that the changes could lead to a breakdown in the relationship between parents and the school
- 'How will lunchtime be managed?'
- Communications to parents on hygiene is already an issue and will be more difficult with more parents.
- The school's identity will be diluted in a larger school.
- General welfare of infants when outside of the classroom – 'they are very small to be so anonymous in a big school'. The welfare supervisors will not know all the individual children.
- Physical space is a concern. There could be a behavioural impact from a larger number of children having to play in a smaller space.
- Worry about the quality of teaching – will it be the same? Will the new teachers be NQTs or more experienced? There is already pressure on teachers with the new curriculum.
- Is the quality of education going to be affected by the expansion? They want assurance that the expansion is going to be managed well.
- They are worried that the school will be too big (and frightening for children in the reception class)
- Worried that non-scalable facilities (toilets, library, hall) will be too small and that events will be full and therefore exclude some families.

- Concerned that building an extra classroom will take away outside learning space.
- Worried that it is cramped already and that there is no room for extra places. Mentioned toilets, dinner-time already rushed, no-where for kids to hang coats.
- How would disruption to education be kept to a minimum during the building process?
- How will the additional children be accommodated at lunchtime? Lunchtimes are already overcrowded.
- Dobcroft's lunchtime rotation system already a pressured routine
- The school hall said to be already constraint with tickets to special events limited for parents' attendance
- How would extending Dobcroft's catchment area work?
- Concerns over health and safety implications in managing the lunchtime system,
- There are not enough toilets in the school at the moment would additional facilities be included in an extended school
- Playground supervisors' role is already pressured with outdoor site constraints
- This resident is convinced that if the expansion were to go ahead, there would be a negative impact upon the quality of education and the outcomes of children.
- Parents argued that if provision were negatively affected by expansion, then demand for places could well fall, causing another kind of problem.
- Some parents expressed concern that if children from outside of catchment were admitted, they may have a negative impact upon the performance of other local children.
- Current dining provision is inadequate: children currently pass through a narrow corridor to collect food from a small hatch, whilst other children have to eat their lunch in their class rooms. I am concerned that with more children attending the school, this situation will only worsen. Also, if FSM is ever rolled out to junior phase, we could expect to see an 85% increase in the number of children having school meals.
- This is a nurturing environment – being a super school would change that ethos.
- The Council has a duty to ensure that the school can continue to provide high quality education.
- I wouldn't have applied to a school with 120 children. The idea of the overcrowding at the Infant school puts me off. People from Holt House I and Woodseats would get in ahead of Greystones/Ecclesall.
- Only Dobcroft and Hunters Bar have a 90 intake. Most research says Infants learn in a small environment.
- Council's approach is to push Dobcroft to the point where it will take a dip in quality.
- If these facilities are put in place, it will be a magnet for children for SEN. Infants is already – school's reputation, and because there is SEN provision in place. Sibling priority for non-catchment. Objective is to make more catchment places.
- Council officers should come in to see the day-to-day running of the school, including the issues around lunchtime capacity. There are half an hour lunch queues for six year olds.

- There is a stable and secure community at Dobcroft. The children know all the other children in their year, parents know other parents etc. Children don't want the school or its fields to be bigger.
- "Dobcroft is a fantastic school but if it is made bigger, it will lose this."
- They have no concerns over the school's ability to cope with change
- Changes here will have more impact than at other schools
- Where is the baseline for stating Sheffield City Council is expanding an outstanding school when Dobcroft has not been fully inspected for a few years; the school may not be graded as outstanding under the existing Ofsted framework.

### Alternative Options

- Why are you not expanding Sharrow, Ecclesall or Holt House? These schools are oversubscribed; you should be expanding these schools.
- Clifford could easily be expanded. PRU could house the junior phase. A mezzanine could be built to accommodate extra classes. Additional space could be found when the 'parent's room' is freed up.
- Ecclesall has plenty of space to expand.
- Would like to see feeders for primary - secondary refreshed. Why does Dobcroft just feed to Silverdale – here is no choice. It's very monochrome. High Storrs is a more creative/vibrant option – fantastic building. Why not provide a junior phase at Clifford? The feed from Clifford to Ecclesall J is very bad for traffic. Why should Dobcroft take up the slack for oversubscription at Ecclesall.
- We don't want to be a super school. The expansion should be at the two FE schools or Ecclesall/Clifford.
- Ecclesall I could expand by 30 places. A site for the Junior phase at Clifford could be found. We feel more than 30 places would be needed if Dobcroft doesn't happen, an alternative would need to be found.
- The Ecclesall schools or Clifford are keen to take forward an expansion. Clifford is added capacity for the Sharrow area because many parents from Sharrow/Lowfield go there.
- Expansion will make the schools gigantic. (it is effectively a through school). Build a through primary onto Ecclesall Infant. Shame the Bannerdale site is being sold – why not put a new primary school on the site – properly planned with parking. Expand Ecclesall Infant.
- Clifford Infant seems a sensible proposal. Surely Ecclesall Infant is closer to where the growth is. Holt House could be expanded. Council needs to think more creatively and more sustainably. Ecclesall Junior is doing better than Dobcroft and is a good overflow for Greystones.
- A Junior phase for Clifford would be a better solution - this could be sited on the Bannerdale site.
- Would a new build school be a better long term investment.
- Parents are convinced that there are possibly better options for providing the extra places such as at Ecclesall, or by using the Bannerdale site.
- Parents wanted to know why the Ecclesall or Clifford options hadn't been chosen ahead of the Dobcroft one.
- Use of the old Abbeydale Grange site was also suggested.
- It was questioned why Dobcroft was being proposed over Clifford I and Ecclesall I as the figures suggested the population growth was more focussed in these areas.

- I think a new school would be more appropriate.
- Dore and Totley are two sites with lots of space that would be much more suitable for expansion.
- Abbeydale Grange – why couldn't this of been used as a site for a new school. Closing this schools show the council's lack of long-term planning.
- What other options have you looked at? Have you considered a new school?
- I would prefer to see an Ecclesall/Clifford alternative than growing the school.
- Could have built a school on Abbeydale Grange site but [heard] this land has been sold for property developers.
- Why have other schools not been proposed? Ecclesall and Clifford have space
- Have new schools in the areas been considered as an alternative?
  - If so, why were they not proposed?
  - Why were expansions of smaller schools not proposed?
- This resident was concerned that it appeared as though a thorough assessment of other options hadn't been undertaken. He suggested that a new build option at Silverdale should be looked at.
- Why is Ecclesall/Clifford not being considered as a solution?
- Why not expand Ecclesall instead? They have a smaller intake so there seems to be an imbalance.
- Expansion at Ecclesall and Clifford seems more viable – it would work better and have less impact on children.
- Suggested Sheffield City Council had gone for the cheapest option of extending an existing school when a newly built school is required.
- Extending pupil places at Dobcroft would place additional pressure on an outstanding school. Parent suggested investing in neighbouring schools to improve standards, so diverting parental preference.
- Clifford is on a better sized site to consider enlarging
- It appears to be a short term solution to a long term problem, new school required why was Abbeydale Secondary demolished?
- This resident was concerned that it appeared as though a thorough assessment of other options hadn't been undertaken. He suggested that a new build option at Bannerdale, for example, should be looked at. He was also unconvinced about the rationale for Dobcroft, which seems to be simply that it is 'central' to the area.
- Parents think that other options such as those being proposed for Clifford and Ecclesall need to be seriously considered by the Council.
- Parents believe that a new purpose built school somewhere in the area (e.g. Bannerdale) would be the best option and should be considered.
- We don't want to be a super school. The expansion should be at the two FE schools or Ecclesall/Clifford.
- The proposal to expand Dobcroft seems to be entirely based on the fact that it is central to the area and doesn't factor in any other variables.
- Dobcroft is not as oversubscribed as other schools.
- Dobcroft being central geographically is a ridiculous reason. People are moving into the Dobcroft catchment area – they are escaping from Nether Edge – places at Dobcroft could fill from Nether Edge.
- Is this needed at Dobcroft as opposed to other schools?
- Is it in the best interests of non-catchment area children?

- There is no choice for parents at Dobcroft to go elsewhere as other schools nearby are oversubscribed
  - The process is only fair when other options aren't ruled out
- The group want people to have school spaces in their local communities
- Why do we not do more on schools in other areas to make them more desirable for parents?

### **The Decision-Making Process**

- I think that the consultation period is too short.
- Information could have been shared better to wider areas/schools affected by these proposals.
- Timing of the consultation is poor. Dobcroft I didn't know about the temporary expansion. SCC is actively inviting parents outside the area to apply.
- Should wait for a decision until we know how many catchment applicants Dobcroft will have. People will be aggrieved because people pay to live in this catchment – some move from Nether Edge – you would be offering places to children from outside the area.
- Parent hasn't received the Admissions letter about places at Dobcroft I. Son has sibling status at Clifford. Daughter at Ecclesall J. Parent lives in Springfield (feeds to Silverdale). Would have changed preferences.
- Parents were very critical of the decision making and consultation process, particularly in relation to the temporary expansion for 2015/16.
- The consultation process for the proposed permanent expansion has been poorly managed with too little detail being made available.
- The whole process seems rushed and doesn't provide parents with sufficient time to respond fully to the proposals.
- Parents would have expected far more information to have been made available during the consultation process (e.g. feasibility studies, options appraisals, health and safety assessments, etc.).
- Parents made the comment that the process seems to be a 'done deal'.
- Parents asked what the emergency situation was that meant there had been no consultation before the increase in Autumn 2015 was decided.
- The time frame for consultation is too tight for all parents and local residents views to be taken into account.
- The time frame for consultation is too tight for all parents and local residents views to be taken into account.
- Parents of children entering the school in 2015 have not been included any of the mailshots for consultation documents. This cohort should have been included.
- Parents were very critical of the decision making and consultation process, particularly in relation to the lack of consultation on the temporary expansion for 2015/16.
- There needs to be a wider discussion about needs (in places and admissions terms) for 2015.
- Publically announcing the decision to expand in 2015 prior to the consultation starting has created a problem for the school.
- Didn't receive a letter about consultation, received information through friends. Wasn't informed at the time of applying - poor communication
- Question around what is the scope to challenge any decision made in March
- Consultation process is very poor – consultation on such plans should be 4 months. Some parents are considering legal challenge.

- Lack of transparency on part of SCC
- Dobcroft parents are perceived as “middle class” and therefore not as important as “other communities”. Had this been another part of the city, much more consideration would have been given to local concerns, sensitivities.
- There is not enough information to make this a consultation. Not had an acknowledgement to an email to school reorganisation.
- The Council have “jumped the gun” and know this. Will they go back on this decision when they realise that the proposals won’t solve oversubscription?
- This can’t be a tickbox exercise; it needs to be an actual consultation.
- The timescales and people having time to give their views are too short
- We are concerned about making a decision on a permanent change before impact of temporary change is known.
- There is not enough information about the proposed changes
- ‘Why has there been no consultation on the temporary increase?’
- They would like to have more information on why the Dobcroft option was proposed over other options.
- ‘Why is the potential expansion of catchment boundaries not part of this consultation?’
- The group were worried that the decision had already been made and that the temporary change was a precursor to help push through a permanent change
- ‘How was the temporary decision made and can parents get more information on the information considered?’
- The group would like to see the risk assessment done for the temporary change
- Local resident expressed ‘disgust’ that the Council hadn’t sought to consult about the temporary expansion of the school and, even if it didn’t have to legally, it would have been courteous to have done so.
- Because of the temporary expansion it makes it seem that the permanent expansion is a ‘done deal’.
- It hasn’t been made clear that an additional build will be taking place this year for the September 2015 intake.
- Are the details of feasibility studies available to the public?
- Why aren’t drawings and plans provided during the consultation process so we can see what we are being asked to respond to?
- Is there a contingency plan if the proposal does not get through Cabinet?
- This parent thought it difficult to make an assessment about the accommodation of 180 extra pupils without plans to consider, and there were too many ambiguities to formulate an opinion on this proposal.
- Local resident unhappy about the short amount of time allowed for the consultation.
- Parents were unhappy that the Council hadn’t consulted about the temporary expansion.
- The report reads like it is a ‘done deal’.
- Communications around the change have been poor and they would like more information.
- They thought there was some misinformation over details of the changes
- We have been asked to comment on something we can’t picture.
- We shouldn’t be asked for an in-principle decision.

#### **Comments in Support of the Proposal**



- Infant school see an opportunity to better their buildings. Don't want to feel the kids overwhelmed by numbers but children won't notice the difference. Would support as long as it is fully funded.
- I don't mind the idea of a 4<sup>th</sup> class. The school is strong and would be able to manage it as long as appropriate spaces are provided for them to do so. On a whole I think this would be a positive thing for the school.
- While I think more evidence needs to be provided to prove that Dobcroft is the correct choice for an expansion in terms of demand, if this were to be provided I would be happy for the school to expand.
- If it is an expansion at Dobcroft that is needed then I think that it would be ok, but you would need to make sure the additional pressure on the site is managed well.
- I am in favour of the expansion providing that appropriate additional resources (e.g. staffing) are provided to cope with the extra pupils.
- I am in favour of the expansion providing that appropriate additional resources are provided to cope with the extra pupils. I think 4 x FE school would be fine.
- I think this is a good local school and would support the proposal provided it can be done properly and enough resources are available.
- This parent approved the expansion of Dobcroft cautiously, providing there would be a detailed framework of plans to maintain the standard of educational provision throughout the whole process of transition, and the accommodation standard pupils currently enjoy (Library areas and ICT suites) not be affected to manage more pupils.
- I moved into this catchment area – it seems wrong not to get children in the catchment area into school.

#### **Miscellaneous/Uncategorised**

- Parents feel this is being manipulated to shut Nether Edge.
- Parents from that area try to get their children in here. Parents get one child in at Dobcroft and have other siblings in other schools – they race around in cars.
- Anybody who moves into catchment can't get in. Ideally everybody should walk to school and the school has a community. People feel threatened by children from other areas and language barriers.
- Parents don't like the trickle up the corridor.
- PSA will have to do more fund raising, as that is the only extra money that the school can get.
- Is there any money to sort out some of these problems at Dobcroft Infant?
- Parents are concerned that the temporary expansion will invariably lead to permanent expansion.
- Parents pointed out Colin Ross' comments in a Guardian article in 2013 and wanted to know if he had the same views now:
 

Colin Ross, a school governor and the Liberal Democrat shadow cabinet member for children and young people on Sheffield city council, argues that primary schools should ideally not be bigger than 420 children – the equivalent of two classes of 30 in each year group.

He said: "Parents want to know that primary school teachers know their children. If a school becomes bigger than 420, it is very difficult for staff to know each child. At primary school age, it's very important for children to know adults at their school to feel comfortable. We should be building more schools, not fitting more children on to already squeezed sites."

- I want to know what the schools will get out of this.
- Has there been an impact analysis report completed that allows me to understand how my child (reception 2015/16 cohort) will be effected by the planned temporary expansion? I need to be able to make a decision on whether I change my preferences.
- How will this affect the number of applicants to Silverdale – i.e. will more students at Dobcroft mean more competition for Silverdale?
- As a parent I trust the governors to make the right decisions.
- Cheapest option would be the wrong thing for the schools.
- I have now moved to the area to get into the school – I now have a bigger mortgage – this is unfair.
- Not enough planning information to be able to make a decision – more information needed.
- We have children starting at Dobcroft in 15/16 and will be scapegoats for this bulge coming through.
- In five years, children will be able to effectively live right by the school and not get in due to [not having] siblings.
- Dobcroft is already a big school and it's important that local families and friends go to the same schools.
- Parents of pre-school children would be put off by this expansion [parent has spoken to other parents who confirm this.]
- Increased funding is not worth a negative impact on child safety.
- Has section 106 money from developers been used on education investment?
- Has Bannerdale been sold and if so where has this money been spent?
- Expansion of Dobcroft is a 'patch answer'. No objection to extra places if they are for catchment children. 'We moved into the Dobcroft catchment area because we knew it was a small school.'
- SCC lack the ability in planning regeneration or the foresight in building developments fit for its purpose.
- There is land down the side of school with a footpath on Dobcroft Road/Millhouses Lane littered with dog mess, not cleaned or maintained properly. The concern was health and safety issues of more pupils walking the same route to get to school.

## Letters & E-mails

### **School Places at Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools** **Consultation Response from Nick Clegg MP**

The need for more primary school places in the south-west of Sheffield is a hugely important issue - it is incredibly disappointing for any child to be denied access to their catchment school. It is also clear from the Council's statistics that these pressures are going to continue for the foreseeable future, with a rise in the number of births in Sheffield. This is a consistent problem year on year and I find it concerning that the issue always appears to sneak up on authorities.

As the local Member of Parliament for this area, I have met with members of staff and governors at Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools, Ecclesall Infant & Junior Schools and Clifford Infant School, to discuss these proposals. I have also met with local parents who are concerned about the plans and received correspondence from them. Their collective thoughts have helped me in responding to this consultation.

I note that some measures have already been put in place to cope with the extra demand for school places over the last few years, such as the expansion of Greystones Primary School and a temporary measure at Dore Primary that has resulted in a mixed age class. However, my observation is that the fundamental issue has not been addressed and this has resulted in another temporary measure of an extra class at Dobcroft Infant School for 2015/16 whilst a more permanent solution is sought.

On this point, a number of parents have contacted me to express their concerns that the additional 30 places at Dobcroft Infant School in 2015/16 are to be imposed and lack consultation. I appreciate that you state "this is a one-off change and does not commit the Council or school to going ahead with the permanent increase from 2016...", however I would seek some strong reassurances that this is the case should your current proposals be rejected.

What's more, I note that "there is no legal requirement" on the Council to consult about the extra class in 2015, but some forward planning could have, in my opinion, allowed for this. It is a huge concern to me that this decision appears to have been decided as a *fait accompli* with no consultation.

Parents clearly want a solution that enables children to attend a local school and not have to go through the stressful process of finding they cannot get a place at their catchment school and instead being allocated a school some distance away.

However, many parents at Dobcroft have expressed concern about the proposal to expand Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools to 120 places per year. They feel that this will cause overcrowding issues - and this is an understandable fear given that residents are being asked to comment on the proposals without detailed plans for how this might work on the school site.

There are also concerns about the infrastructure locally, such as the roads and how they will be able to cope with the increased traffic problems that an expansion of a school is likely to

bring. For these reasons, I strongly feel that other possible solutions such as expanding Ecclesall Infants and Clifford need to be given equal consideration.

A long term, resilient, stable solution is needed for this area rather than the piecemeal short term fixes that have been enacted over recent years. The parents and children of south west Sheffield deserve better than constant patchwork solutions.

Yours sincerely

Nick Clegg MP

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To whom it may concern:

I am submitting this response in my capacity as the prospective MP for the school, following representations made to me by local parents and conversations with the school and governing body.

There is a broad understanding of the looming problem of limited primary school places in South West Sheffield. The parents, staff and governors with whom I spoke are supportive of the Council in their efforts to find a long term solution to that problem, despite concerns that the demographic changes were largely predictable. The school themselves have adopted a positive 'can do' attitude to the Council's proposals and should be commended for both their approach and their own efforts to consult the community.

However, there is considerable frustration with the manner in which the official consultation process has been carried out and particularly the lack of detailed information made available to both the school community and the wider community of Dobcroft and Millhouses.

The time frames within which we are operating – compounded by the issues of purdah in the run up to May and the legal requirements surrounding changes to catchment – lead many to believe that the expansion to Dobcroft is in effect a decision that has already been taken by Council officers, and that the consultation process does not provide sufficient detail to be able to make an informed view or effectively challenge the proposals. The lack of response to genuine concerns and queries has compounded the frustrations among parents. Despite the availability of data indicating the need for an increased number of school places in coming years, there is a perception that the current proposals have been unnecessarily rushed and that there is little real scope to halt the expansion of the school in 2016-17, let alone the confirmed expansion in 2015 which has caused real concern to those families affected.

Questions remain regarding the extent to which alternative solutions have been explored, not least those offered by other schools and sites in the area – a number of which were seemingly keen to offer extra places and accept expansion. No conclusive information has been offered explaining the decision at this point to exclude those opportunities.

Parents and the school itself have a legitimate right to expect more detail regarding salient issues that may impact on their view of the proposals, including the effect on Plus Stage SEN students at the school, the scope and disruption caused by building work of the scale required, the funding available for building work and the legislative requirements regarding

space per pupil. My understanding is that no feasibility report has been prepared. Certainly no feasibility report has been shared with parents despite a number of requests. Questions asked by parents have yet to be answered fully or frankly by officers. Comments made during the consultation have contradicted the information made available at the start of the process.

I am also concerned that little work has seemingly been undertaken in the wider area of Dobcroft and Millhouses, alerting those residents not connected to the school of the impact of the proposals. Letters that were sent to households in the area arrived after the Council run consultation meetings had already taken place and many residents are seemingly not aware of the proposals. The potential increase of 210 extra students at the school will cause both disruption and a significant increase in traffic in the local area; adversely impacting on local residents. Any decision to expand the school following this consultation is therefore almost certain to cause further concern in the local area, and/or require significant changes to the traffic management in and around Dobcroft and Millhouses.

I have no doubt that Sheffield City Council is facing difficult decisions and challenges as a result of the budgetary pressures it is now facing following government cuts, not least to the capital budget for school building. The problem of limited school places in the South West of Sheffield must be addressed. However, I would welcome the Council reviewing its decision making process to this point and engaging in a wider, more inclusive and more holistic consultation process with the community regarding the expansion of Dobcroft school. Decisions must be informed if they are to be legitimate and the community must feel truly engaged if the expansion of Dobcroft is to enjoy the confidence – or at the very least the understanding – of local residents and those affected by the decision.

Yours,

Oliver Coppard

Labour Party Parliamentary Candidate in Sheffield Hallam 2015

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My daughter is due to start infant school in September. We are in Dobcroft's catchment area and it was our first choice but I am concerned about the recent letter informing us of the plans to increase the size of the school to four classes per year.

My view was that the school already had a large number of pupils for the site, with some children accommodated in semi permanent classrooms.

Please can you inform me what plans are in place to accommodate the new class? If it is within the existing school buildings, please let us know how this will impact on other shared space?

Please let me know how lunch and break times will be managed to ensure all children get an adequate break?

Will the senior leadership team be strengthened to maintain the level of support the school is renowned for? Will the new class be taught by a permanent member of staff or a supply teacher?

Will additional resources be purchased by the school to support the additional class?

I have read the proposal on the website and appreciate that Dobcroft has primarily been chosen due to its central location to a number of local schools which are oversubscribed. However Dobcroft is already a large school and other schools such as Eccleshall have larger grounds and premises with fewer children.

Clearly we appreciate you have a responsibility to accommodate all the children requiring a place. We just want reassurance that the increase will be properly and fully resourced to ensure the children within the school don't suffer as a result.

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I would like to express my concerns about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infants school.

My son is in year two now so won't be directly affected by the proposed changes. He has special educational needs and has made excellent progress at Dobcroft thanks to the tireless dedication of the staff.

The school is full. The class rooms are small and the mobiles even smaller. The staff use the space creatively, taking groups of children outside or breaking out into other spaces such as the ICT suite, the star room, the rocket room and the library. The loss of the library would gravely impact on their ability to cater to the children's needs in this manner.

My son receives a lot of extra support at school. Like other children with problems such as autism, he is often overwhelmed by noise and activity. Sometimes his behaviour could disrupt the learning of other children so it is vital that the school has the physical space to

accommodate his needs. Dobcroft has an excellent track record for inclusivity. Creating a busier and more overcrowded environment would directly affect the school's ability to cater for children like my son. In effect creating barriers and discriminating against children with disabilities. It would contravene The Equality Act 2010.

I have absolutely no doubt that Mrs Rowland and her team could provide a fabulous education for another 30 children per year but they simply cannot be squeezed in to the existing space. More classroom is space required, and the school also needs needs more communal space, not less. And more toilets.

The site would be big enough to build a school with three more classrooms, a bigger hall, more break out space, perhaps even an inclusion unit. There'd even be room to build it whilst the existing school was in use. Maybe the time has come to make a serious long term investment in this excellent school. It would be a mistake to assume that the changes are going to be temporary. The mobiles were supposed to be temporary and they're more than thirty years old!

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Many thanks for your e-mail. The keep clear marking are not really the concern (am I right in saying that these are the marking immediately outside of the school?), my concern is in relation to the current high levels of traffic (it can take me 10 mins to escape my own driveway) on Whirlowdale Crescent (connecting Dobcroft and Millhouses Lane) and the potential increase in traffic due to the additional proposed infant class. This will have a detrimental impact on the air quality, the safety to children and adults, and potentially impact the value of my property.

As far as I am aware there has been no consultation on the impact of the increased levels of traffic due to the proposed additional infant class. This will mean 30 more children, with the likelihood of them all being dropped off by car, I'm assuming this as letters have been sent to parents out of catchment.

I'm also raising a number of other issues with the relevant individuals and departments.

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Im writing in response to a letter ive recieved as a parent of a child in dobcroft infant school.

.. I would like to support the idea of creating a new reception class..and actually my son already needs to join dobcroft infant next year ...sep2015..so the decision is in our benefit as both sibling will be in same school.

As a close neighbours to dobcroft school...i don't think that an extra class would cause burden on roads as it will serve local people around ;and the majority walk on feet and r not using cars ...and its already known that this school serves the nearby surroundings; and its nearly impossible to get a place there if you were not in the catchment area. ..

My daughter year 3..is going to abbeylane becoz we couldn't find a place in dobcroft junior...though her sister is going to dobcroft infant year 2...

And their brother is expected to join dobcroft infant next year..

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I am a resident of Whirlowdale Crescent, close to Dobcroft Schools. I have been made aware of expansion plans and, while I understand the likely reasoning behind these I want to let you know my concerns for the traffic increase that will follow. It is already bad at school times on our road and I effectively can't plan to arrive at or leave my home between 3.15 and 4 pm by car as I don't know whether my drive will be obstructed or not. The traffic itself is often very clogged up as the road is also used as a rat run.

I have a proposal which I think would help and am not completely opposed to the plans. I had been thinking of asking about this before and the news of expansion has prompted me. I suggest making Whirlowdale Crescent one way between, and in the direction of, Dobcroft Road to Millhouses Lane. This would ease the passing of vehicles and the flow when there are parked cars, while allowing minimal disruption due to the availability of cross-routes spanning Pingle Road and Dobcroft Road. It would increase safety for the children crossing the road to school. It would also reduce rat running at all times. It would inconvenience residents a little but the benefits would, I think, outweigh this. I am aware some residents may not like the idea.

I would appreciate a chance to discuss this proposal verbally and to explore the details of such a scheme

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I am here writing to express my concerns regarding the Dobcroft Schools Expansion plan. We live on Pingle Road, it is the same street as the Dobcroft schools, and we have children at the schools, but we are shocked to hear about the schools' expansion plan, and of course we are strongly opposed to this plan.

the schools currently have very limited resources, they are short of staffs and short of facilities, parents and grandparents are very very often been asked to help (volunteer) at the schools, not just for local school trips but many are on regular basis, I am having no problems with these helpers, but I asked why is this happening?

school told me that it is because we do not have enough staffs or employed helpers.

secondly, the school is very short of facilities, not just short of classrooms, computers, libraries, books etc. It completely shocked many of

the parents that the school management teams have to hold all kind of "fairs", "parties", "non uniform days" "trips" "disco" to raise the money to have some toilets fixed, to have repair school fence and to renew some roofs.

Dobcroft schools are public schools, if the council are struggling to provide these basic needs, why are you planning

to expand it, it could only make the situation worse. and I can not believe the decision is made without any consultations!

As local residents, we also strongly object to this expansion, we are already having too many cars parking absolutely everywhere in the neighbourhood,

during the 8.45-9.15 and 3.15-3.50, parents who do not live locally will have to drive to the schools, and many park their cars on the very narrow Pingle Road,

we have other parents parking their cars in OUR FRONT YARD, and cars blocking our entrance in many occasions,

and almost on daily basis, cars parking on verge damaging the grass and trees, cars parking on the pavement posing a danger to people especially to children.

the school currently do not have zebra crossing, not to mention a crossing patrol officer, I can not imagine how much worse the situation will be become if there are more cars are coming into this area.

I hope the council to have some proper consultations on this plan, or we will have to take the matter further.

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Firstly the table is difficult to interpret, it does not clearly show the overall projected numbers against current capacity in way that is easy to see and understand.



In order to consider this document properly and make the right decision for people in the catchment I feel firstly there is key data that is necessary :

1. I do not understand the table - the total in 2018/19 is 400 - what does this represent ? is goes up to 487 but is titled 2015/16 ? Or are the title years incorrect ? If the titles are incorrect this document needs to be reissued.
2. For admissions in 2014 - how many first choices were each of the schools and how many admitted ?
3. The right hand part of the shaded table - what year does R, Y1, Y2 etc refer to ?
4. What does 0 to 10 mean on the top of the table ?
5. Can you please provide a copy of the catchment population document referred to as at Autumn 2014.
6. Why are Greystones' reception places being expanded to 90 from 60 ? Does this meet local demographic need ? Can they already accommodate these numbers within existing buildings ?
7. The capacity of the South West area is 490 pupils with Greystones at 90 versus a catchment of 487 (the largest number shown, presume wrong year) - why does the area need more places than 490 ? Why can't they be accommodated in local catchments to avoid travelling ?

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Hi to make this easy can you please provide this data today ?

For each of the following schools what are the first choices for 15/16 :

Netheredge, Hunters Bar, Lowfield, Totley, Ecclesall, Holt House & Carterknowle, Dobcroft, Springfield, Greystones, Dore, Sharrow, Totley CofE, Clifford, St Wilfrid's

Also can you please give me the raw demographics that give us how many people will enter reception for the next 3 years by catchment area ?

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I have one daughter in Y1 at Dobcroft and two more who will join in the school years 15/16 and 17/18 respectively. I have read the consultation document published by Sheffield City Council dated January 2015.

In the consultation document the need to increase places is predicated on a 14% growth rate in the Dobcroft pre-school cohort. This figure is taken from the last 2 years and then applied to all year groups.

2 years of data seems an incredibly short time period to build a prediction model which is then applied for the next 4 years. What was the growth rate in the pre-school cohort in previous years?

Also I am interested to know what range the 14% growth rate is based on. Is it just the increase in the cohort the year before they are due to attend school or an average of the increase across all cohorts each year? If it is just the last year then it would seem wrong to be applying this number to the 2018/2019 cohort 4 times.

I would have thought that after birth, the cohorts grow relatively slowly until the year before school starts as parents move into the area as they start thinking about schools. I would have thought it was less likely that parents would move 6month old children into the area in anticipation of school places.

In a nutshell, from the data provided, I am concerned that the need for extra school places maybe overstated. I would appreciate your clarification.

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I write this letter to express my major concerns regarding the current plan for the 2015/16 pupil intake at Dobcroft Infant School. Given that you have offered no consultation to interested parties or those directly affected, I also request details of who I should address complaint to.

My concerns lie with the lack of planning and preparation for this measure in addition to the lack of consultation. It appears to be a rushed decision in response to a situation you have been warning us about for several years.

To shoe horn 30 pupils into an infant school already over capacity can only lead to a negative impact on the children's education. The school already operates with 2 classes, out of its total 9, in temporary accommodation and demands on its current, and often out dated facilities, are high. How can squeezing in an additional class not impact on health and safety when no provision has been made for it? There would be insufficient toilet facilities, ICT space, library space and hall space to meet the needs of children within a learning environment. How could educational standards be maintained while imposing such ridiculous barriers on the school?

The principle of increasing the school intake in response to a predicted problem seems reasonable. It is common sense that provision needs to be put in place to facilitate this increase. Proper planning and consultation is required, along side expansion of the existing provision. You appear to be attempting a rushed and limited consultation for the 2016/17 intake, confirming consultation is a must. Why is it then suddenly not required for the 2015/16 intake. Is it that it's so unworkable in such a short space of time that it would not go ahead? Or that provision to meet basic needs such as toilets could not be added into the existing building and therefore should not be discussed? So is the answer to ignore the problems and push it through regardless, and not give anybody an option of well thought out alternatives? This will inevitably punish the unfortunate 4 to 5 years olds of the 2015/16. Leaving them forever "making do" because they are the unfortunate year to have a temporary solution. As it's temporary, it does not count, and we will do it better next year, no consultation required. That is what is currently happening.

It is not acceptable. These children were not born yesterday, they were born 4 years ago. They have not all suddenly moved into the area either. You wrote to me when my son was 2 years old explaining there is a sharp rise in child numbers for his year group and you would be making extra provision available. My son is now ready for school in September, did the you forget this was going to happen?

The answer is not to just stick them somewhere and hope for the best. It is not just the 2015/16 intake that will suffer from this lack of foresight and planning, the whole school will suffer. Dobcroft Infant School makes excellent use of everything it has and it is often not easy. There is not enough room in hall at lunch times, play space is limited, children already struggle with limited toilet facilities and over 20% of its pupils work in temporary accommodation. How will the school be with an extra 30 pupils dropped on it in September?

The plan for the 2015/16 intake at Dobcroft Infant school is unsafe, compromising, not only health and safety, but pupil welfare and ultimately educational achievement. To offer no

consultation, planning information or reasonable evidence of it needs is unprofessional by any standards.

As I stated at the beginning of this letter, I am expressing my concerns, but also I am also requesting you send me the contact details of who to complain to. I wish to question how such a major change can be allowed to continue without consultation of interested and relevant parties, and without extended provision to protect health and safety.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I await your response.

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I am writing to express my concern of the proposed additional class of 30 children from September 2015.

As far as I am aware there has been no consultation with local residents on the potential impact of increased traffic, new structures being built on to the school or decreasing value of the properties surrounding the school.

The roads are almost impossible to navigate as it is. If I leave my house between 8:30 and 9:00 am, it can take up to 10 minutes just to pull out of my driveway, this is the same in the afternoon at pick up time. There are currently no parking restrictions in place to stop cars blocking roads and driveways (as I find my own blocked most days), the increased air pollution is damaging to the health of residents and those walking to the school in the morning.

Potentially my own children will be attending the school, and I am concerned about the impact of another 30 children will have on the school. There is little funding put towards the school as it is (all because its south west Sheffield!!), this seems ridiculous given the primary education is the key to ensuring the best from our children's long term education. The school is cramped, and very claustrophobic with very basic facilities.

Whilst it may be the case that the increased class intake is for this year only, I unfortunately do not trust the council or those in charge to make this a permanent thing and slip around the back of any consultation that should be completed.

I have been informed that the school and the school governors are also not happy with this proposal.

I look forward to receiving your feedback

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I have just been made aware of the intended extension to both Dobcroft schools by a note written by a concerned resident. The fact that neither the schools nor the Council have had the decency to inform the residents who will be significantly affected highlight what is wrong with modern politics. It is only just over a year since we had to protect our street from a poorly conceived and draconian parking scheme and now we have to protect the neighbourhood from this absurd project.

The reasons why I am writing this letter of complaint:

- 1) You did not have the common decency to tell anyone affected that you were doing it.
- 2) It is only 4 years since you closed and demolished Abbeydale Grange School. The Sheffield Council must have known about the rise in birth rate then.
- 3) It is only one year since we had to have meetings on the emergency services concerns regarding

access to the area for emergency vehicles. The streets cannot take any more traffic and you are expecting to add pupils from a far wider catchment area. The proposed extension to the Tesco superstore was declined on the grounds of air quality and you want to push more cars onto the side roads of Millhouses!

4) How can the Council make such a significant expansion to a school without any planning consent?

5) There are at present approximately 640 pupils at both schools and you are proposing to increase

this by a further 210. This is an increase of nearly 50%. Again there has been no consultation with the residents. There is significant traffic problems around the school now. I would hate to see what it would be like with this irrational plan.

I am totally disgusted with your display of total disregard for the local residents. Sheffield is a democracy and not a totalitarian regime, of which the department that has decided this course of action should be aware of.

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We have recently been informed of both the agreed extra class to Dobcroft School for the 2015 intake and the proposed expansion of an extra class per year for the whole school going forwards.

I am writing to inform you that I am strongly opposed to this expansion.

The roads around Dobcroft School are already almost gridlocked around the school start and finish times, in particular Whirlowdale Crescent and Millhouses lane which are also impacted by the school traffic for St Wilfrid's and Milnhurst schools.

When trying to leave for work in the morning there are large numbers of pedestrians on the road causing a hazard already but overparking compounds this, with many cars blocking the sight of home-owners who are trying to get out of driveways. This all puts the children at high risk of accidents.

Needless to say, up to 30 extra cars on the road in the next school year will add to this problem and make the road even more congested and hazardous. We would like to raise our serious objections to these plans which have been pushed through without any consultation with locals.

Even more objectionable is the new council plan to expand each year of Dobcroft by 30 children. Another 7 years of 30 students coming from outside the catchment will inevitably lead to up to 210 more cars on these roads in the mornings and would be unacceptably dangerous to the children and inconvenient to local residents.

Please let us know about any official routes we can pursue to air our objections to these plans.

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I write this letter to you in sheer desperation and anger with regards to the current proposal put forward by Sheffield City Council to increase pupil numbers at Dobcroft Infant School. This has been announced without consultation and will increase intake as a temporary measure from 90 to 120 pupils as of September 2015. The period of official consultation has been applied to making the temporary measure a permanent addition by September 2016, as you are fully aware.

First and foremost as a worried and anxious parent and local resident I feel that the proposal is rushed and highlights a knee-jerk reaction from the Council to a problem that you have

been aware of for years. As we are all well aware birth rates don't sharply increase overnight.

My main area for concern is how the Council don't feel it necessary to include the 2015 temporary measure in the current consultation process. How can this be allowed and who can be held accountable for the decision?

I am aware of the shortage of primary school places locally and nationally. However, using Dobcroft as an example by increasing its intake to deal with the problem in the South West of the city is wholly unacceptable. Have the Council actually put any thought into where these children are going to go and how educational achievement can be maintained? Using existing learning space is a disgrace.

Dobcroft is already over its capacity with a 90 pupil admission number per academic year. The education correspondent Mike Russell working for the Sheffield Star had previously posed the question is Dobcroft Sheffield's most overcrowded school? I think its probably fair to say yes. The school already offers a cramped learning environment with 2 out of its total of 9 classes in the infant side alone operating out of mobile units on the playground. This overcrowding is demonstrated further in the lack of space within the dinner hall, out door space for play and a limited number of toilets. Although Dobcroft makes excellent use of the space on offer how can a further 30 children in September be advantageous to the current situation?

The temporary fix cited by the yourselves would rely on reorganising existing learning space. With limited space already I find it unbelievable that you think you could shoe horn a further 30 children through the doors. Has anybody thought about basic provisions like toilets? Surely there is a statutory obligation to provide such basic needs.

If the 2016 consultation fails to come to fruition based on planning permission, local residents objections, feasibility study, and a general lack of foresight from the council this will be at the cost of much limited and needed resources. One of my main concerns to cite here is the health and safety implications of road traffic risks. However, why is it ok to put existing pupils and the 2015 cohort of children at risk for a year based on a temporary measure?

In terms of the influx of additional primary school places needed at Dobcroft Infants I look to you for answers. A comprehensive list of children within catchment boundaries who applied to the school for 2015 and the forecasted figures for 2016 is needed. Furthermore how many of these are siblings and how many were refused a place? As far as I was aware the catchment boundary system is still in place and that the boundaries haven't changed. However, I see the council have announced proposed changes to existing catchment areas for Dobcroft infant and Jumior, Dore & Totley Primary for 2016/17. My question to you is why seemingly has the council not been required to formally consult on any significant changes to existing admission arrangements for 2015 as I'm sure this must apply with the 30 extra pupils set to attend in September. Once again has it been forgotten or is it disguised under the 'temporary' measure heading?

It is suggested when reading the consultation report that with confidence the results will be a great. Many would argue a modern learning environment. Too true, but with resources / construction and planning.... something that seems to be over looked.

There has been no evidence provided to the anxious parents of existing pupils that a primary school so big can still achieve and provide the level of success that Dobcroft currently achieves.

Referring to a previous point, Dobcroft is positioned off a number of busy estate roads, tucked away with busy junctions. Has this been risk assessed for 2015? By 2017 alone we may potentially have a further 90 pupils, clearly not from within current catchment boundaries. Will the roads or residents be able to cope with all those extra parents in cars facilitating the school run?

I feel so passionate about Dobcrofts future. I fear with the changes in front of us its clear there will be a lack of basic provision & space for the children. With that in mind who knows what the future plans will hold for their educational attainments.

I took my concerns directly to Nick Clegg and was able to meet and talk with him last week. He was clear in his frustration at the lack of consultation for 2015 and the overall plan for 2016. What makes this argument so emotive is that we have parents from Ecclesall Infants & Clifford actively petitioning to create new primary school places that are accessible to the areas of highest need by expanding Ecclesall Infant School by one form and expanding Clifford Infant School into a through primary. Please refer to the following link

[https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-create-new-primary-school-places-that-are-accessible-to-the-areas-of-highest-need-by-expanding-ecclesall-infant-school-by-one-form-and-expanding-clifford-infant-school-into-a-through-primary?after\\_sign\\_exp=member\\_sponsored\\_upsells](https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-create-new-primary-school-places-that-are-accessible-to-the-areas-of-highest-need-by-expanding-ecclesall-infant-school-by-one-form-and-expanding-clifford-infant-school-into-a-through-primary?after_sign_exp=member_sponsored_upsells)

Due to the short consultation period we have been offered for the 2016 plan I have continued to express my concerns and sent letters to my local councillors. I am sending this email in the hope that you are able to answer any of my questions with regards to catchment figures, explaining how and why the 2015 measure is not part of the consultation process. I would also like to see a feasibility study for 2015, all relevant health & safety risk assessments, comments on taking away existing learning space and facilitating adequate basic needs like toilet facilities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I look forward to hearing from you

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Thank you for your letter dated 16th January informing us about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Juniors. We have 2 daughters at the school and so had already heard about it.

We understand the need for increased capacity and so do not have any objection to the proposed increase in class numbers. We do hope that we will still be able to keep the playing fields and playgrounds as much as possible for the children.

Since there will be potentially an extra 210 children at the school eventually, this would have a significant impact on the surrounding roads. We live at 135 Dobcroft Road. We are happy for the proposals to go ahead but ask that some safety measures may be put in place on the roads in addition and as part of the expansion proposal. We walk the children to and from school every day and regularly see drivers drive straight across the zebra crossings whilst children are on it (This has been particularly dangerous on a number of occasions), or drive above the speed limit for the area, or park on 'no park' areas. We would suggest that the council considers the following options:

- making the speed limit 20 miles per hour around the school?

- pedestrian crossings or lollipop ladies to be put on Dobcroft road, Whirlowdale crescent and Millhouses lane.

- A no park zone to be extended at either end of the alleyway (between Dobcroft Road and Millhouses lane) and also onto Whirlowdale crescent

We think with the proposed expansion these changes need to be also incorporated at the **same time** to make the journey to school safer for our children.

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Thank you for the consultation letter. As residents of Pingle Road whose children had the benefit of education at Dobcroft Schools we support the proposal to increase the number of places to meet demand.

We would, however, like to draw your attention to the existing and likely increase in parking issues on the surrounding road system. We have noticed over the years that the number of vehicles parking near the schools has increased greatly, together with an apparent lack of consideration by the drivers in the manner in which they park.

Double parking is a daily issue; apart from the personal inconvenience we have seen delivery vehicles, coaches and cars have to reverse all the way down Pingle Road due to lack of room to pass. More worryingly we are personally aware of an emergency ambulance having extreme difficulty in this respect. There would be no possibility of a larger emergency service vehicle negotiating Pingle Road at drop-off and pick-up times.

We are aware that the School has parent education appeals over parking - this has little effect and so we would urge the council to address this issue, whether or not the proposed expansion of places goes ahead,

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I am writing in relation the above consultation with the purpose of challenging the length of time given to consult with all interested and affected parties.

In the attached document setting out the consultation details it is stated the consultation period will be 4 weeks (30 days). I am lodging an official challenge to the length of consultation on the basis that it affects over 270 children, in addition prospective children; and their families. In addition those in the local area who will also be affected by the proposed school expansion. I request an extension of the consultation so that all affected parties may properly consider the facts presented and gather an appropriate response.

I request a clear justification and explanation for the legal basis for the proposed consultation period length.

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We are writing to express our concerns about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft infant and junior school. We have one child in foundation and one in year 2 and it is apparent from the proposals that this will have a significant and negative impact on their school experience. We are especially concerned about the impact of higher numbers of children limiting the current children's use of facilities for example less play space, less access to computers and more pressure on lunch facilities potentially affecting their important meal time. The current hall is clearly only just sufficient for the existing numbers when it comes to accommodating lunches, school plays, and after school clubs.

The current staff do an excellent job of managing the already large year groups and we feel that a further increase will make it harder to maintain these standards.  
We would therefore like to register our formal objection to the expansion proposal.

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I am writing to express my concerns at the proposed increase in numbers at Dobcroft school. My daughter is currently in Foundation there and I have another child due to start in 2017.

I walk down to school and the amount of traffic around the school is already very concerning. St Wilfreds school is also close by with a huge amount of traffic. Any increase in numbers would make this situation out of control. Particularly as looking at the numbers the extra children would be from outside the catchment and therefore unlikely to walk to school.

The school already feels cramped, the classroom my daughter is in is very small and I do not see how another class could possibly be accommodated for this year which is supposed to be temporary.

Any construction to make the school bigger would be extremely unsettling for those children already attending.

It seems ridiculous to put a class in this year (2015) without any sort of consultation. Surely parents and staff have a right to comment on such a huge change?

Looking at the figures, the problem is in the Ecclesall area so why are you not putting the extra class there (which I know is what their parents and headteacher want) and having a junior phase to Clifford (also very popular).

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I refer to the above and wish to register my objections. We live on Millhouses Lane and are therefore directly affected by your proposals.

Whilst I note the increase in number of children of school age, regularly reported in the media, the answer to the problem in Sheffield is not to increase the numbers at a school which is already oversubscribed by children in the catchment area. I cite the following :

i) there are three popular schools in close proximity, Dobcroft, St Wilfrid's and Mylnhurst. We have lived almost directly opposite St Wilfrid's for seventeen years. During this time period the volume of traffic at school times has increased enormously. Increasing the numbers of children from outside the area is inevitably going to create yet more traffic.

ii) I have already witnessed one accident outside our house and am aware of more, including some near misses. Parents regularly park on the pavements, on the zig zag lines and on the junction of Whirlowdale Crescent and Millhouses Lane, obscuring visibility for both drivers and pedestrians. It has reached the point where we actively avoid leaving our house at school times if possible.

iii) sometimes we are unable to leave the house by vehicle since our driveway is blocked despite having paid the Council twice for road markings to prevent this. Requests for the vehicle to be moved have often been met with rudeness and I have had to contact St. Wilfrid's on more than one occasion.

In a city the size of Sheffield there must be other schools which can accommodate an increase in numbers without the problems which would be exacerbated in this area. The Council is under a duty to consider fully all the options and to make the correct decision having taken all factors into account. To ignore the already difficult traffic situation would be to neglect its duty.

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I am writing to voice my concerns regarding the proposed expansion of places at Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools. The decision to force the school governors to take an extra class



on a temporary basis from September this year is completely unacceptable as they do not have the room to accommodate an extra class and feed 30 extra children at school time- the lunchtime situation is already very difficult to handle due to the numbers now having hot meals- I know because a friend of mine works there as a lunchtime supervisor- has anyone from the council actually consulted the school or taken any notice of what they have said about this? I would like to know from the council where these children will actually be put and how they think the school will cope with the extra numbers in its current building.

On the other matter of the permanent increase in classes for each year throughout the school, I am objecting to this massive 33 percent increase in numbers. Our house on Dobcroft Road backs onto the school and our road is completely chaotic at school starting and ending times. There are cars parked on the verges, damaging them, and all down the road, making it extremely difficult to get into and out of our drive, with cars parked close on both sides of our driveway and cars opposite, and traffic trying to squeeze down the road. It is actually very dangerous as you can't see if the road is clear or not and pedestrians on the pavements ( and those children whizzing past on scooters who don't look) also at risk. Like it or not, a large proportion of children still arrive by car and this situation will be much worse with more 210 more children at the school, many of whom will come from outside catchment, according to your figures, and therefore drive by car. It seems from your figures that the numbers of children in catchment will actually fall in the next few years across almost all areas, showing there will be no need for an extra class in each year. Also, you base your future estimates on figures which have no basis e.g. 14% increase in families with children moving into the area each year - clearly this cannot happen every year due to the limited houses becoming available each year.

I would like to know how this decision is taken, and what effect, if any, the consultation has on the proposals. Is this consultation simply a paper exercise, or are the residents and school governors' views actually acted upon in any way?

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I'm am writing to you having seen the proposals for expanding Dobcroft school.

I am concerned about the proposals.

My concerns are:

- what is the resultant proposal for transfer to secondary schools.
- what will the admissions criteria be for entry into Silverdale school.
- parking at dobcroft is insufficient.
- the plans do not appear to address the need for places in the area and as such from my reading other schools need extending or building.

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I would like to strongly object against the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School for a number of reasons:

1. There is too much traffic already around the school - not only caused by people driving to Dobcroft, but nearby St Wilfs and Mylnhurst. Any expansion is likely to be for children who will not walk to school, so could ultimately result in an extra 210 cars driving in the area and fighting for parking spaces. This would make it even more unsafe for all of us who walk to school with our children, for the children who walk / cycle to school independently, also for those walking / cycling to and from Silverdale and those of us who cycle to work having

dropped our children. There is no formal crossing point or crossing patrol at the main Pingle road entrance to school, so the journey to and from school is already stressful and would become far more dangerous.

2. The school already suffers from a lack of outdoor space, particularly in the Junior school where the field and garden areas are often out of bounds. In the infants the youngest children are often fearful of the biggest and have very little protected space to play in. More children would exacerbate this situation and more building to accommodate the children would limit the space still further.

3. Overcrowded outdoor play equipment. My children already complain about not getting a turn on the equipment / space to play football and more children to compete with would make the situation worse.

4. School halls already too small. The too small school halls already result in long lunch breaks to accommodate all the kids eating, crowded assemblies, PE sessions being cancelled because the hall is being used by a different class and school plays that siblings are not allowed to watch as there is a lack of seating space. More children would not fit and lunchbreaks could not be made longer without disrupting learning.

5. The whole premises are cramped and it is often difficult to find a break out space in which to meet with teachers during the school day or for kids with special needs to use (though the situation in the juniors has improved recently).

I believe other options to accommodate the additional children should be implemented as they are more appropriate, eg:

1. Reducing the catchment size of Dobcroft school and instead extending the catchment size of currently undersubscribed schools such as Nether Edge or Holt House (extra resources put into these schools could make them more attractive options to parents)

2. Expanding a different school, Ecclesall and Clifford are both keen for expansion. There is also potential to rebuild on the Holt House (especially expanding in to the previous Bannerdale / Abbeydale Grange site) or Totley site.

My opinions are based on the facts that I have a child in the infants and one in the juniors and one who is in his first year at Silverdale, after 7 years at Dobcroft. I also live very locally to school and have worked with Sheffield schools.

I believe any expansion to Dobcroft would be detrimental to not only the kids who currently attend, but those who live nearby and will attend in the future.

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I recently wrote to you expressing my concerns and objections towards the proposed expansion at Dobcroft School. Many have you have already replied but I await a full and detailed response following consultation. In the meantime, ahead of the drop-in sessions chaired by the school reorganisation team starting tomorrow 26/1/2015 at Dobcroft Infant School I would like to point you towards a petition set up by a group of parents against expansion. In the last 48 hours since it was launched we have already gained over 70 supporters. Following the drop-in sessions tomorrow I would hope to see double this number once people are aware of its existence!

Please click on the following link to access the petition and the comments made by concerned parents to date.

Please note Ecclesall & Clifford School have their own petition running simultaneously alongside ours. You can access it through the Dobcroft petition as we are working collaboratively together in challenging Sheffield City Council on the apparent lack of planning and foresight into primary school places for children in the South West of the City and potentially ruining and endangering the education of so many children already at Dobcroft School.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email

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Please find attached an initial response to the consultation about expansion at Dobcroft infant and junior school. This has been prepared by a group of concerned parents, ccd, who have joined together in absence of any other shared forum.

We hope to develop this document with further research and evidence, but as time is of the essence with such a restricted consultation period, it is being sent now for your urgent review and response.

### **Dobcroft Expansion Information Exchange – Key Parental Concerns**

We have grave concerns about the expansion at Dobcroft Infant School (DIS) and Dobcroft Junior School (DJS), whether temporary and permanent, and seek urgent response to the issues below:

#### **SUMMARY**

1. No expansion is necessary as all catchment children due to get places for next 4 years
2. There is no legitimate “emergency” evidenced to merit 2015 expansion as a temporary measure (and it is outrageous that parents and school were not allowed to consult)
3. No time has been allowed to have genuine consultation on 2016/2017 expansion
4. Concerned there are longer term plans to expand Dobcroft catchment (potentially to accommodate housebuilding on Bannerdale site) which are not being disclosed
5. Inadequate feasibility studies and no capacity of physical expansion the DIS site - its too small!
6. Expansion compromises quality indoor and outdoor spaces - threat to library, computer room, Forest School area, after school clubs and DASH, and massive health and safety risk in the playground and hall
7. Inability to maintain & deliver quality education - its proven that children do better in smaller school settings and that extra numbers could compromise learning
8. Health and Safety Risk due to Increased Road Traffic/ Congestion / Pollution

9. No evidence that Right of the Child being put at heart of decision making
10. There is real demand for expansion at Ecclesall and Clifford as an alternative
11. The requirement is for a long term solution not temporary measures

## **ANALYSIS**

### **Issue - Expansion taking place in a catchment that doesn't demonstrate the need (taken from SCC figures)**

SCC state there are 84 children in DIS/DJS catchment for 2015/2016, who can apply for one of 90 available existing places with no need for an additional “temporary” class. 2016/2017 has an anticipated intake of 90 within catchment which could also therefore be accommodated without the additional class. 2016/2017 has 86 catchment children and 2017/2018 has 89 catchment children. The figures demonstrate an over provision within DIS/DJS catchment, for this year and the next four years, and therefore no proven need for expansion to accommodate catchment children.

Whilst figures can change due to migration, the existing housing stock should remain fairly constant (due to planning regulations) and therefore SCC’s rationale of expansion to meet theoretical demand in the catchment is flawed.

The plans to expand DIS/DJS are as a result of the need for additional places in other local schools. DIS/DJS catchment children should not be prejudiced by the failure of SCC to provide sufficient space in other catchments, or their school experience damaged due to issues of political and logistical expediency in wider Sheffield area.

### **Issue – No opportunity to consult on 2015 expansion, and no legitimate “emergency” evidenced to merit 2015 expansion as a temporary measure**

SCC announced that the intake will increase by 30 children, taking the foundation stage intake from 90 to 120 pupils as of September 2015. This emergency measure was taken with insufficient notice or consultation with parents, governors or school. We would like to know why SCC consider this an essential act when there is sufficient provision for catchment children in the 2015/16 intake. We ask you to provide the legal basis for taking this “emergency” measure without consultation, and will look to judicially review any actions taken by SCC if there has been any procedural unfairness in applying the power to increase numbers temporarily.

We are concerned that any temporary expansion will make a permanent expansion inevitable, as adaptations will already be in place, and the impetus to create better solutions for children will be lost.

### **Issue – No time to have genuine consultation on 2016/2017 Expansion**

SCC has offered a consultation only on the issue of making the expansion of DIS/DJS permanent from the 2016/2017 intake onwards. The multiple concerned parties (children, parents, grandparent and other carers, residents, teachers and governors) have been given an extremely short time frame in which to consider and present their views.

Parents and children are particularly vulnerable as there is no existing forum for collective and considered response. The DIS/DJS Headmistress Cathy Rowlands has commented that whilst she has attempted to keep parents informed, “it is not our consultation”, and not for the school to coordinate a response. The PSA is a fundraising organisation for the school, rather than a “political” group, and has declined to become a forum for a collective response from parents. The School Governors have a diplomatic role to play in negotiations and

discussion with SCC to secure best financial outcome for DIS/DJS. A parents group has therefore been set up to try to share the information we hold on the expansion following our own enquiries but we feel the consultation has been purposely restricted to avoid meaningful response. SCC will have had notice of the proposals for some time, and have chosen not to share the fact of the expansion or any of the details to allow informed response in sufficient time.

We would like to legally challenge the fact the consultation period has been set at 30 days (January 11<sup>th</sup> to February 11<sup>th</sup> 2015), when there are so many concerned parties. We believe a 90 day consultation is appropriate, and only once full information including feasibility studies have been put into the public domain in a meaningful way so readily available to all parents.

We also would like to challenge the fact that parents of 2015/2016 intake children were not given the opportunity to consider the expansion as part of their decision making prior to January 2015 (with the deadline for admissions being January 15<sup>th</sup> 2015), or indeed that parents of 2015 children have no choice but to send their 4 years olds to start school at the same time as 119 others in an overcrowded and under resourced school.

Appendix: Claire Britt correspondence with SCC.

**"I am writing to in relation the above consultation with the purpose of challenging the length of time given to consult with all interested and affected parties.**

**In the attached document setting out the consultation details it is stated the consultation period will be 4 weeks (30 days). I am lodging an official challenge to the length of consultation on the basis that it affects over 270 children, in addition prospective children; and their families. In addition those in the local area who will also be affected by the proposed school expansion. I request an extension of the consultation so that all affected parties may properly consider the facts presented and gather an appropriate response."**

**Issue - Concerns that SCC has longer term plans to expand catchment, which are not being consulted on simultaneously to allow informed and coordinated decision making**

The current catchment boundary system is still in place for 2015. Earlier in 2014 SCC announced proposed changes to existing catchment areas for DIS/DJS & Junior, alongside Dore & Totley Primary for 2016/17. Any consultation on expansion to DIS/DJS can only be meaningful in light of the facts regarding catchment changes. We ask for reassurance that the expansion as a "temporary measure" is not just a precursor to widened catchment boundaries, which would put more children into DIS/DJS catchment, and therefore result in a higher number of applications (thus engineering a social pressure that didn't previously exist).

**Appendix: James and Nikki Crookes correspondence with John Bigley**

**Dear Mr Bigley**

**I have been made aware today that there are proposals for changes to the Dobcroft School catchment area, but the link here does not indicate what these proposals are:**

**<http://sheffielddemocracy.moderngov.co.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=16040&PlanId=175>**

**Is it correct that the proposal documents are not available until the 10th March with a decision then made on the 18th? (If so, why the short window?)**

There are currently many proposals under DIS/DJS for DIS/DJS and Junior Schools (i.e.: non consulted intake 2015 and proposed permanent expansion from 2016 - we have been told that this is a result of insufficient places available in the current catchment area), and parents have very little time to put their points forward for any of them - and the matter of catchment changes should surely be part of the same consultation? (I was only made aware of this today, and cannot understand why it is being treated as a separate matter?)

Kind regards

“Dear

Apologies, this was fed into the forward planner of the Council because during the Autumn Term it was considered that changes to existing admission arrangements was a possibility for the 2016/17 academic year for some schools, as part of the overall plans for expanding school places. There is a statutory timeframe for such changes which meant that they would have to be approved by 15 April, hence the March Cabinet date.

In the event there are no proposed changes to catchment areas or any other admission arrangements so the Cabinet item has been withdrawn. I have instructed colleagues to remove it from the web site. If there were any proposed changes, you're quite right, they would have to be consulted upon and this would have happened alongside the consultation for the proposed expansion at Dobcroft from 2016/17. The proposed expansion at Dobcroft does not propose any changes to admission arrangements. Please be reassured that any proposed changes to existing catchment areas would be subject to formal consultation. Thank you for bringing this to my attention and I apologise again for any confusion.”

#### Issue - Inadequate feasibility studies and no capacity of physical expansion the DIS site

The DIS site is small and with no surrounding land onto which it can expand. We feel we are being asked to rely on the fact that SCC will fund and build additional classrooms/facilities at DIS/DJS to accommodate the additional 90 pupils (over a three year period) in the absence of the necessary planning permissions necessary to “land grab” from the already inadequate playground. Local residents would be able to oppose building works, and the planning department would be constrained by its own guidelines with regard retaining outdoor utility space. We are aware of some parents who are unconcerned about the proposed expansion on the misguided assumption that there will be the funds and time to put up a new and appropriate building on the same site (i.e. a total demolition and rebuild); we need the facts about the proposed accommodation for 2015/2016 and following years. Parents should be provided with the feasibility studies (on the understanding that SCC *has* undertaken feasibility studies), so they can be subject to proper professional and independent scrutiny.

Appendix: Planning rules

#### Issue – Expansion Compromises Quality indoor and outdoor spaces for both curricular and extracurricular activity

DIS currently offers a **cramped learning environment**, with 2 out of its total of 9 classes operating out of mobile units on the playground. The temporary solution cited by the Council would rely on reorganising and getting rid of existing shared learning space. Currently it is suggested that the **library would be lost** to make way for a new class in September 2015, squeezing some books into the computer room (which would suddenly be under greater

demand). This would mean the essential after school club, **DASH**, which currently provides 40 places out of the library is may be forced to **operate at a reduced services** from the 14 place “hub” room. Thereafter, if the expansion plan is taken forward, it would mean the **loss of the Forest School site** and in the form of cheap mobile units. Dobcroft has strongly promoted itself as an Eco School with forest school values. Do we just disregard this award winning work in the quest to increase pupil numbers?

There is a genuine **Health and Safety risk** created by additional children in an already overcrowded and **under resourced playground**. The number of “bump notes” and incidents of playground injury are already well known to parents, and not helped by the fact that the ratio of playground supervisors to children is extremely low. The playground experience for these 4 5 6 and 7 year olds, extremely young children, will be overwhelming and we would welcome additional live studies of the playground and psychological reports on the impact of increased noise and activity within the playground has on vulnerable children. The infant school currently shares the junior school field. At full capacity, how will children fit for sporting events like sports day? How does loss of facility for shared sport activity fit with the Healthy Schools and Change4 Life message? With only one school hall which will remain the same size, how do SCC propose to accommodate each Childs right to 2 hours of PE per week, given that the hall is required for other activities including providing a timely lunch for all children?

Many current DIS/DJS parents consider the existing school as providing **insufficient basic amenities** and infection control. There are real concerns about toilet facilities, and the difficulties this raises in managing incontinence in such young children, and the general health and safety risk to the children from an overcrowded environment. Whilst more funding may be made available to improve toileting under the plans for expansion, this would be counterbalanced by the increased pressure on these facilities caused by the additional children. We ask to see the evidence re square footage per child currently available to children at DIS, and under the expanded numbers for 2015/2016, and then again is 2016/17 and 2017/18, to prove these meet legal minimums and thereafter national and Sheffield averages.

### **Issue - Inability to maintain & deliver quality education**

The **educational evidence for smaller schools** is overwhelming. As parents with no real choice about where to send our children other than our catchment schools (given that other schools in the area are at capacity), we feel alarmed that the clear message sent by educationalists that children of all backgrounds and abilities thrive in a smaller school setting (not just a smaller class setting) is being entirely overlooked.

We have existing concerns about educational **standards** at DIS not meeting the “outstanding” label set. The last full Ofsted report was in 2007 so there is no current evidence of consistent outstanding practice at the school (although there are certainly some excellent teachers there). Anecdotal evidence on ParentView, and confidential forum, suggests there are improvements to be made at the school. We are concerned that additional pressure in terms of numbers will allow the school to delay the Ofsted Inspection and the attendant improvements it can bring.

Appendix: evidence re outcomes for smaller school

### **Issue – Health and Safety Risk due to Increased Road Traffic/ Congestion / Pollution**

We need urgent reassurance regarding the health and safety risks caused by increased traffic in the already congested Pingle Road area. The biggest issue that the school currently deals with is traffic hazards during the start and end of school. Parents ignore double yellow lines and disregard responsible speed limits. The proposed expansion will accommodate increased demand from outside the catchment, which will guarantee 100% of all additional children arriving in vehicles. The current infrastructure for drop-offs on surrounding residential roads is insufficient - and increasing the schools’ combined capacities by 33% will make this worse, and cause chaos. We would surely require an irrefutable guarantee that

the safety of children and residents would not be compromised in any way by the expansion of the schools. We need to know how SCC suggests reducing the extra pollution implications from these vehicles.. How does it propose to manage the increase in traffic flow to ensure children are safe when arriving and leaving the school premises. How does this fit with the message of eco-living (encouraging children to walk to school) which is messaged to children from Foundation Stage and is a key part of the Change4 Life campaign.

### **Issue – No evidence that Right of the Child being put at heart of decision making**

There is no evidence that SCC has put the Rights of the Child at the heart of their decision. There is a particular concern regarding SEN children. We understand that DIS/DJS may be promoted as a SEN Centre of Excellence, but SEN children are those that are most likely to be overwhelmed and disenfranchised in a super sized school environment. We believe 'Super School' is a fair description when the proposals would lead to DIS increasing its size by one third over a three year period.

### **Issue – There is real demand for an alternative solution at Ecclesall and Clifford**

Currently other schools near to DIS/DJS are actively campaigning to create new primary school places that are accessible to the areas of highest need by expanding Ecclesall Infant School by one form and expanding Clifford Infant School into a through primary. They do not see the expansion of DIS/DJS as a meaningful solution to their needs and the desire to provide local schooling for their children. We support their campaign for improved provision within their catchment, particularly when they have the space required for additional building works.

Appendix: [https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-create-new-primary-school-places-that-are-accessible-to-the-areas-of-highest-need-by-expanding-ecclesall-infant-school-by-one-form-and-expanding-clifford-infant-school-into-a-through-primary?after\\_sign\\_exp=member\\_sponsored\\_upsells](https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-create-new-primary-school-places-that-are-accessible-to-the-areas-of-highest-need-by-expanding-ecclesall-infant-school-by-one-form-and-expanding-clifford-infant-school-into-a-through-primary?after_sign_exp=member_sponsored_upsells)

### **Issue – The requirement is for a long term solution not temporary measures**

We recognise that getting schooling provision right for all children of Sheffield is a huge challenge for SCC and we do not pretend that the solutions to demographic change across the city are easy. Nevertheless, limited expansion within an already full school, is an example of destructive short termism. We request the evidence to show that building and adequately resourcing a new school in south west Sheffield is not a more viable long term solution, even if more expensive for SCC in the short term. We are aware of the recent closure of Abbeydale Grange – could this be reopened or other brownfield sites used to create other great new schools to give the best to all our children.

## **HOW TO GET INVOLVED AND MAKE YOUR OPINIONS HEARD**

### **Action – Use and 'Like' our Facebook Page**

Our group has set this up as a shared resource and a first step towards making our collective views known. Please share any comments you have, particular issues or information that could support or expand on points above.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1398539780447113/>

### **Action – Attend Consultation and Email Schools consultation**

If you agree with any or all of the points in this report, please ensure these are communicated at the Consultation meetings set for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>. The electronic text is available on the Facebook page should you want to cut and paste any of this into your own emails.

### **Action – Collaborate with Ecclesall and Clifford Junior schools campaign**



**<https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-create-new-primary-school-places-that-are-accessible-to-the-areas-of-highest-need-by-expanding-ecclesall-infant-school-by-one-form-and-expanding-clifford-infant-school-into-a-through-primary>**

### **Action – Sign Our Petition**

A petition has been set up to help stop the current proposal put forward by Sheffield City Council to increase pupil numbers at Dobcroft School.

**[https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-nick-clegg-mp-cllr-jackiedrayton-jayne-ludlam-john-bigley-help-stop-sheffield-city-council-from-squeezing-extra-classes-of-pupils-into-the-already-overcrowded-dobcroft-infant-junior-schools/invit?just\\_created=true&share=true](https://www.change.org/p/sheffield-city-council-nick-clegg-mp-cllr-jackiedrayton-jayne-ludlam-john-bigley-help-stop-sheffield-city-council-from-squeezing-extra-classes-of-pupils-into-the-already-overcrowded-dobcroft-infant-junior-schools/invit?just_created=true&share=true)**

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I am writing with regard to the proposed increase from 3 classes per year to 4 classes per year at Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools.

As a parent to one child currently in Year 1 with a sibling due to start in September 2016 and also as a local resident, I would like to express my concerns over the impact the proposals will have over the education of my children, their well being and the impact on the local area.

It seems to me that Dobcroft is an easy choice for the Council because they are strong schools which still carry "outstanding" classifications from Ofsted so it prevents putting further pressure on other local schools which do not fare so well. However, with 3 classes per year group, Dobcroft already has one of the largest year groups in Sheffield, let alone the South West region. Topley school only has one class per year and recently appeared at the top of the Primary School league tables. This cannot be a coincidence and my fear is that the quality of education provided at Dobcroft will slip as the Schools struggle to cope with the sheer volume of children coming through.

My other concerns are as follows:

- 1) There are currently insufficient toilet facilities at the Infant School to cope with an additional class in 2015 let alone any more.
- 2) There is not enough spare land at either school to facilitate further buildings. The Infant School playground is already small and cannot be made any smaller without infringing on the safety and enjoyment of the children. If the plan is to build on the playing fields at the Junior School then this sends out a particularly negative message the Council places on health, fitness and sport in Schools and will meet fierce opposition from parents across both Schools.
- 3) Following the introduction of free school meals, the Infant School already struggles to get the children through at lunchtime and in fact lunchtime already lasts 1hr 20 mins so already cuts into the daily teaching time. If the proposals are to stagger lunchtime, this will mean some children going long periods of time without a meal which will, without question, affect their concentration in lessons.
- 4) Increasing the annual intake and presumably the catchment area will result in more parents dropping off by car as they will have to travel further to get to the schools. As both schools are adjacent with 2 other schools very close by, it is already a bottle neck in the local vicinity and there is a significantly increased risk to the children of bringing extra traffic to the area at drop off/pick up time.

5) I understand Ecclesall C of E School and Clifford Infant School are both canvassing to obtain the extra intake and obtain the extra funding. Other schools in the South West of Sheffield have class sizes of under 30 such as Hallam and Nethergreen so there are other options for the Council.

Last year, 8 children in catchment did not get a place at Dobcroft. This was unprecedented. Is that enough to warrant an increase of 210 children across both schools?

Please consider these points when making the final decision about where the increase will be and if they are absolutely necessary at all.

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We are writing to express our very strong objections to the expansion of Dobcroft Infant by 30 places in 2015:

-We are incredulous that Sheffield Council would make such a significant decision as this without any consultation with the school. This is totally undemocratic. We feel that if you wanted to make such a proposal then you should have consulted with the school in advance of this.

-Your approach is inconsistent as to your shame, you failed to act in September 2014 when around 8 catchment children were not offered places at Dobcroft or reasonable alternatives.

-The data that has been circulated does not present a persuasive case for expansion being required in 2015.

-Whilst the data seems to suggest that in future years, there may be a shortage of places in the wider area of Ecclesall/Greystones/Dore/Totley...the key weakness of your decision is that unless you amend the catchment areas, the dense population around Dobcroft means that there are a number of children who based on the "crow lies" rules, despite having almost a guarantee of a place in their catchment school at schools such as Holt House, will select Dobcroft and be admitted. The children who I assume you are trying to help who live on the extremities of catchment areas of schools like Ecclesall/Greystones/Dore/Totley will be too far away from Dobcroft to get places there.

-This short term decision will create longer term admissions problems as children admitted to Dobcroft in 2015 from outside catchment, will then create a pool of "siblings" who will create a pressure on places in future years.

We feel this is an ill-considered decision and we hope our objections are registered. We will set out our objections to the 2016 proposals in a separate email.

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Now that I have had the opportunity to review the FAQ document provided by Sheffield Council in regard to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft School, as a parent of two children who attend the school, and as a local resident, I wish to formally object to these proposals.

From my perspective the FAQ document does nothing to articulate why it is necessary to expand Dobcroft School; the document simply puts forward some (rudimentary and fairly poor) research, which shows that some schools in South West Sheffield are over subscribed and some are under subscribed. Whilst I do not have time to review the educational attainment and Ofsted reports for all 11 schools listed in the FAQ's, my guess would be that those that are over subscribed attain better results than those that are not. This would

explain why more parents with children are choosing to move into certain catchment areas.

I would note a number of points in regard to the FAQ's:

- There is no mention made to why certain schools are under subscribed and what action Sheffield Council is taking to address this. I assume that this is because it will involve the long term and difficult process of improving educational standards in these schools (i.e. the role we expect the Education Dept. to actually fulfil.)

- In regards to the temporary expansion for 2015 the document states that there is "no legal requirements to consult on a change of this scale". Simply because there is no legal requirement does not mean that it is not best practise to consult with those directly affected, those who pay some of the highest levels of Council Tax in the city! **As an action I would request the Council to provide me with the number of times in the past 10 years that such temporary expansion has taken place at other Sheffield Schools, and on how many occasions this was done with NO consultation with parents, teachers, governors or local residents.**

- I note that in the FAQ's it states that "**The Council is well aware of the concerns that have been raised to date by parents and local residents alike around traffic**". How frustrating then, that given this level of awareness, to date you have done nothing to address these issues or attempt to improve the safety for children. Furthermore, you appear to be advocating a scheme that you are fully aware will make the situation much worse as all the additional places will be filled by children who will not live within walking distance of the school. In addition, the only reason in all of the FAQ document for specifically selecting Dobcroft is "**Given that Dobcroft is more centrally located within the area of pressure**" - however, as all children who will fulfil the additional 30 places will attend by car, I fail to understand why this centrality is of such importance, in fact it points more clearly to a laziness of thought and lack of creativity in the Education Dept.

- The most patronising sentence in the whole FAQ document is "**The Council understands that it can be frustrating not to have a detailed building and accommodation plan to comment on as part of the consultation**". It is not the lack of a detailed building and accommodation plan that is frustrating, it is the lack of any building and accommodation plan. How the Council can propose that the consultation period will end on February 11th without any such plan is absurd, and I also believe this is illegal.

Further details on my objections to the proposal are contained within the attached document.

I find it ironic that Nick Clegg, MP for Hallam, has previously stated that it was "vital" that any decisions have the full support of locals, when Sheffield Council's approach has thus far been "we will do what we want irrespective of what any locals think".

Please confirm receipt of my e-mail, and I await your swift response to my request for information regarding the number of times in the past 10 years that such temporary expansion has taken place at other Sheffield Schools, and on how many occasions this was done with NO consultation with parents, teachers, governors or local residents.

ATTACHMENT –

The biggest concerns that I, many other parents and local residents share are as follows:

**1. The school will simply become too big**

Dobcroft already has the **largest annual intake of children in the area**. The teachers already have to work very hard to stop this feeling intimidating to children. Within the information provide in the Sheffield Council FAQ document, of the 11 schools in the South West of Sheffield whose intake is compared, only 2 schools (Dobcroft and Hunters Bar) have an annual intake of 90, all the rest have a regular annual intake of 60 or less. I refuse to believe that these levels of annual intake are simply accidental, when all studies show that in regard to primary school children they learn better in smaller schools. Given that these levels of annual intake appear to be the norm, and are based on ensuring the achievement of educational attainment, I can see no logic why a decision would be made to increase the annual intake to 120 at any school, especially when one considers that there are a large number of schools in the area that have an annual intake of under 90 currently.

The addition of an extra 60 children by the time our Foundation Stage children reach Year 2 will make the school feel much bigger and more overwhelming to new and existing children alike. Just imagine what a school size of 360 pupils will feel like to a 4 year old. Essentially increasing the intake by one third gives absolutely no regard for the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially Article 3 - **“The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all actions concerning children”**. I would suggest that in regard to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft School the best interests of the children have been far from a priority, and have come a way behind, money, ease of implementation, laziness of thinking and most disappointingly of all political interests.

**2. Insufficient / Inadequate Shared Space**

There will be increasing and considerable **pressure on already tired shared areas**. For example,

- The ICT Suite – because of existing demand for these facilities the children are only able to have a short period of time allocated to ICT each week. More children in school will squeeze this available time even further – far from ideal in the digital age. (The facility may be relocated under the redesign plans, but that won't compensate for increased demand)
- Twice weekly PE sessions may be threatened if the already complex logistics of the Hall can't accommodate the additional classes, especially in winter.
- Areas like the Hall, Library, play facilities and toilets will suffer significantly **greater wear and tear** as the number of children increases

I attended Dobcroft Infants for one year in 1978/9 before going on to attend Dobcroft Middle School (as it was then). For that year I was taught in one of the mobile classrooms, which at the time my parents were informed were “temporary”. How disappointing then, over 30 years later and my son was taught in the same mobile classroom! Unfortunately his class had to move classrooms for a large part of that educational year because of a leak and flood in the mobile classroom – due, as we were told to the fact they cannot be sufficiently protected against very cold weather and are therefore prone to pipe bursts. For half a term they were taught in another (newer) mobile classroom known as the hub. This is clear evidence that Sheffield Council has never planned long term, and that “temporary” measures have a habit of simply becoming permanent solutions.

The school simply does not have the space to accommodate a one third increase in pupils.

**3. Overcrowding**

Lunchtimes will be even more busy and rushed. If the school is forced to move to three sittings to accommodate the extra numbers then some children will either be forced to eat very early or very late.

After -School Clubs, DASH and activities such as School Disco's, School Plays and Sports Days will become **overcrowded and potentially a logistical nightmare** for those organising and supporting

**4. Reduced Space Available for Play**

New classrooms cannot be added without **removing outdoor space**. With more children attending, more outdoor space would be appropriate rather than less. Children need enough space to let off steam after periods of intensive classroom learning. Let's not forget that the curriculum is becoming more demanding year on year.

**5. Disruption and Safety Risks**

Any building work needed will undoubtedly bring with it **disruption and safety implications** for the children. Our Foundation Stage children will experience this at least three times as:

- a. the building work to create the new library & ICT area takes place
- b. the building work to create new classrooms for the additional children in 2016 and 2017 takes place in the Infants School
- c. the building work takes place to the Junior School to accommodate the additional numbers, starting the first year our Foundation Stage children join the Junior School. (If the Junior School building work is phased in year by year then our Children will experience this every single year they are at Junior School!)

**6. Road Safety Danger and Traffic Congestion**

The vast majority of new children will be from outside our catchment area. This means there will be a **significant increase in road congestion and parking challenges** in the surrounding roads at drop off and pick up times. By 2020, when our foundation children are in their final year of Juniors, this will mean the potential for an additional 180 parking spaces being sought (and fought over) in the area. We've all witnessed some of the "parking" and "right of way" wars that take place every morning along Whirlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road – do we really want that to escalate into further chaos?

More importantly, the dangerous implications for the road safety of the children are very concerning. Parents usually start to let their children develop their independence in the last couple of years at Junior School by allowing them to cross the roads to school alone and making at least part of their journey without adult supervision. How comfortable would you be with that knowing there could be an additional 180 cars in the area in a morning? And if we rein-in the children's development at that stage over safety concerns, how prepared, independent and confident will the children be when it comes to attending Senior School?

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I have been reading with interest the developments in the Dobcroft expansion. A lot of the comments from 'concerned parents' come across as petty and mean.

As someone who currently lives in the catchment for Holt House and has a little boy who should start school in Sept 2016 I am very interested in hearing how the catchment areas will change.

I am slightly concerned if we will be moved to a school where parents cite 'language difficulties with children from Holt House/Carterknowle' and house price decreases because

they specifically moved to be in Dobcroft catchment as reasons against an expansion which seems to have its main goal of giving every child in SW Sheffield the chance to go to a local school.

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Further to my below email I have since read this statement:

"Dear All

Please note that there are no proposed catchment area changes for 2016/17. The item was initially submitted on the forward planner in order to comply with statutory timescales if there were to be any such proposals. In the event there were not. Any subsequent proposals with regard to catchment area changes could not be implemented until 2017/18 at the earliest and would be subject to statutory consultation procedures.

Regards

John Bigley

Manager, Admissions & Access

Inclusion and Learning Services

Children, Young People and Families"

If this is the case how do people that live on the fringes of the catchment know which school they should apply to to have the best chance of attending a local school

We are on ..... which is Holt House catchment but as close to Dobcroft and probably towards the edge of Holt House catchment? Will there be advice on this for parents?

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I am writing to outline a number of concerns we have regarding the permanent expansion of places at Dobcroft Infant and junior schools.

In summary:

The evidence shows that there is not the need for the expansion of Dobcroft schools to accommodate pupils currently within catchment. Pupil forecasts and evidence from the last few years shows that the school is the correct size for the catchment it currently serves. The current year 2 has 18% of pupils already travelling in from outside catchment e.g. Tankersley because of a surplus of places. The idea of further expansion can only mean that many more pupils will end up travelling long distances (by car) to attend a school that local residents have paid a premium to live in catchment to enable our children to attend.

Of major concern as a resident backing on to the school is parking a road safety. As St Wilfred's and Mylnhurst schools are on the doorstep (and they are not catchment schools so most pupils are driven to school) it is chaos now at 8.30-9am and 3.15-3.45pm and adding potentially hundreds more cars would literally cause gridlock. I regularly see cars reversing across pavements as they can't go the way they want to as the roads are blocked on both sides hence only one car can pass at a time. It is only a matter of time before a child is hurt if you increase the traffic further. As we pulled out of our drive on Whirlowdale Crescent a few months ago a car came straight across the Pingle road crossroad and caused a nasty accident. There is no way this extra traffic will not mean that such incidents will be more frequent. This is a housing estate and cannot accommodate a school to serve all of SW Sheffield and very likely wider.

We feel that as Dobcroft is an outstanding school it has been chosen as the one to expand in order to allow pupils currently outside catchment served by less desirable schools e.g.

Nether Edge to get a better education. Whilst that is of course what every parent would want for every child is it really the solution to just keep making good schools bigger? This isn't a secondary school, the school has 4 year old pupils and as a parent I don't want my 4 year old going to a super sized school. With 90 per year this is intimidating enough. We didn't choose this and feel really aggrieved that the council are trying to force this on us. If it's about choice for parents then what about the choices of current Dobcroft pupils?

The school site isn't big enough as it is to accommodate these extra pupils. Extra classrooms are one thing but it is the outside space that would also need changing fundamentally so that it doesn't have a detrimental effect on the current Dobcroft pupils whom it seems don't factor at all in your decision. Playgrounds are small, lunch times are chaos, school plays restricted to two tickets, xmas fayre oversubscribed so many pupils can't attend, these things may seem trivial but they really aren't. These whole school events are exactly why we moved to the Dobcroft catchment, the school has a lovely community feel which will change if it expands.

Finally Dobcroft is currently a feeder school for Silverdale, one of the reasons we chose to move to this area. Can Silverdale accommodate these extra pupils or will our children be at risk of not getting a place there?!

I really hope that you consider these and many other issues before going ahead with this. It is the wrong decision and doesn't solve the problem that you have identified. How can this be right when no-one living in the area or parents of pupils attending the school wanting this? It will have a negative effect on all our children's education and our homes. As Ecclesall want and need expansion to accommodate their current catchment then this is surely a better solution in every way?

We hope there will be a Q&A session where we can hear what SCC have to say about these issues.

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I spoke to a gentleman at the school this morning and he said to email my feedback to you. I hope this is the correct email address to send my concerns to, if it is not please let me know where to send my comments.

I have a child in Dobcroft Juniors and one in Dobcroft Infants and one who will be applying for 2016 entry.

I am also the DASH finance manager. DASH is the Dobcroft After School Hours care. We have places for 48 children in the junior school and 42 in the infant school. We are a charity run by volunteer parents who use DASH. We offer before and after school care and Holiday club places.

We currently have a static mobile on the Junior site and hire the attached mobile everyday. For our infant children we hire the Library and the Hall In the infant school. The infant school are having to change the library into a classroom from September and so we have lost the site for our infant DASH. We have been offered the use of the hub but this is considerably smaller and so will impact heavily on the number of children we will be able to care for for at least the next 3 years. We are currently unsure if we will be able to still offer all of our current children places at DASH and we will probably not be able to offer places to any new starters from the 4 class intake next year.

When the extra class (or classes) reaches the junior school, we will also lose the mobile that we currently rent from the junior school, which means that we will again have to decrease our numbers.

Dobcroft school has a high number of parents who both work and DASH offers a safe onsite child care option. The school expansion threatens our viability. It will be a great loss to the school.

As a parent I am also concerned that the Hub is currently used for the community and after school clubs which will all have to be relocated when we start to use it and there doesn't appear to be anywhere immediately obvious for them to go as the school is already so overcrowded. After school clubs are already over subscribed and difficult to get a place in, but with greater numbers of pupils and less space to run the clubs, it will be very difficult to get a place in an after school club.

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I'm sure I'm not alone in formally registering my concerns about the expansion of Dobcroft school both as a parent of a pupil but also as a local resident.

Unfortunately I'm unable to attend either of the consultation meetings with council members so wish to briefly outline my concerns which I believe to be recurring themes amongst parents at Dobcroft.

My first and ultimate concern is that of child safety. The communal areas such as play areas and the hall are all ready bursting to capacity without the addition of extra children. The proposal undoubtedly will mean that large numbers of the extra children will be from out of catchment so travelling in cars. This will make the area surrounding Dobcroft unsafe with the number of moving and parked vehicles.

I feel that the education of the children already attending will be threatened as there are already limited resources such as IT, library facilities etc.

The demand on after school clubs and wrap around care will likely exceed what they can accommodate.

The site at Dobcroft is simply not large enough to cope with this expansion.

I have 2 younger children not yet at school and I feel that it is incredibly overwhelming at 4 to start with 120 children and attend such a large school.

My last and most pertinent point is why Dobcroft? This really has not been made clear nor is supported by the documentary evidence that I have read. It seems that expanding Ecclesall or Clifford would be a more appropriate and accepted move forward. Not least these schools want to expand.

Dobcroft is an excellent, but already large school, please don't threaten this with what is perceived to be an unnecessary and very much unwanted expansion.

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As a parent of two children currently at Dobcroft Infant School I wish to object in the strongest terms over the current council proposals to expand both Dobcroft Infant and Junior School. Decisions taken here will fundamentally impact both my children's experiences of education and that will shape their lives for ever.

There are **many** reasons for my concerns:

### **1. Just Too Big for Little Children**

Dobcroft already has the **largest annual intake of children in the area**. The teachers already have to work very hard to stop this feeling intimidating to children.



The addition of an extra 60 children by the time our Foundation Stage children reach Year 2 will make the school feel much bigger and more overwhelming to new and existing children alike. Just imagine what an infant school size of 360 pupils will feel like to a 4 year old...

I found an interesting article in the Guardian archives of May 2013 with a contribution from Sheffield City Councils own Councillor Colin Ross:

"Colin Ross..argues that primary schools should ideally not be bigger than the equivalent of two classes of 30 in each year group. He said "Parents want to know that primary school teachers know their children. If a school becomes bigger.. it is very difficult for staff to know each child. At primary school age, it's very important for children to know adults at their school to feel comfortable. We should be building more schools, not fitting more children on to already squeezed sites."

Has Councillor Colin Ross changed his opinion in the last 18 months or can we assume that the Council are not aligned on the implications of creating a Superschool?

More importantly, Educational Psychologists' consistently advocate the benefits of keeping learning environments smaller for young children. Anecdotal evidence of primary schools that have been supersized by removing playspace from the children shows the results to have been catastrophic for the children and teachers alike. Here's another quote from the Guardian investigation:

"Bob Garton, Head of Gascoigne Primary in Barking, East London laments the lack of space. "We have no open space. We had a playing field, but temporary classrooms are on that now," he said. "We don't have one spare room. We are full to bursting." In fact, in all my research the only schools which could cite positive results were those that had been expanded where they had significant land available and where expansion did not inhibit play, space, etc. This is NOT the case at either Dobcroft School.

In a different article by the BBC in March 2012 The Leader of the National Association of Head Teachers, Russell Hobby stated "there are limits to how far a primary can grow and still retain the ethos that makes it special and welcoming to young children. Primary heads are more than capable of handling the logistics, but it is the culture and pastoral care that are at issue," .

Please advise whether any expert advice has been sought about the psychological and educational implications of imposing a very large school on very young children? And if so, what specifically was advised?

## **2. Insufficient / Inadequate Shared Space**

There will be increasing and considerable **pressure on already tired shared areas**. For example,

- o The ICT Suite – This facility appears to be being removed completely in September to accommodate the "emergency" expansion. In the digital age that is not acceptable. Even if this facility were replaced on a like for like basis, the existing demand for these facilities means that the children already only have a short period of time allocated to ICT each week (about 30 minutes each because we don't have enough computers to accommodate a full class so have to operate in shifts!). More children in school will squeeze this available time

even further – that is not acceptable. (The facility may be rebuilt under the redesign plans, but that won't compensate for increased demand reducing available time per child)

o Twice weekly PE sessions will be threatened as the already complex logistics of the Hall will not be able to accommodate the additional classes, especially in winter. We are constantly reminded about the need for our children to exercise regularly - removing PE sessions is not acceptable. How is this consistent with Government and Medical advice about keeping our children active?

o Areas like the Hall, Library, play facilities and toilets will suffer significantly **greater wear and tear** as the number of children increases. The toilets are already in an appalling state - they cannot cope with greater levels of usage. Play facilities are already only provided and maintained by tireless PSA fundraising.

### 3. Overcrowding

Lunchtimes will be even more busy and rushed. The school already has to operate 2 lunch sittings to accommodate all the existing children. With an additional 90 pupils they will have no choice but to move to three sittings meaning that a large number of children will be forced to eat either very early or very late - that is not acceptable.

The DASH (after school childcare for working parents) facility will no longer be able to continue in its current format under the "emergency" expansion plans as this is currently based in the Infant Library which will now have to become a classroom to accommodate the "emergency" children. The impact on working mums and dads who rely on (and pay for) this will be significant. Has this been considered at all?

Similarly After -School Activity Clubs will become even more over-subscribed as we do not have the space or facilities to increase group sizes. This will reduce the qualitative experience of non-curricular activities for many children. Has this been considered?

Key social development activities such as School Disco's, School Plays and Sports Days will become **overcrowded and potentially a logistical nightmare** for those organising and supporting. We already have 90 children performing in each school play - the hall simply isn't big enough to accommodate a school play with a cast of 120 children. So does that mean that the children miss out on this development and we, as parents, miss out on such key memorable moments in our children's lives?

### 4. Reduced Space Available for Play

New classrooms cannot be added without **removing outdoor space**. With more children attending, increased outdoor space would be appropriate rather than less. Outdoor facilities are already cramped and we already see a high number of "bump notes" being issued on a daily basis because the play area is overcrowded. Surely increasing overcrowding is a Health and Safety concern? Children need enough space to let off steam after periods of intensive classroom learning. Let's not forget that the curriculum is becoming more demanding year on year. How is removing play and exercise space consistent with the Council's policy on Children's health?

### 5. Disruption and Safety Risks

□□□Any building work needed will undoubtedly bring with it **disruption and safety implications** for the children. Our Foundation Stage children will experience this at least three times as:

- a. any building work to create a new ICT Suite area takes place
- b. the building work to create new classrooms for the additional children in 2016 and 2017 takes place in the Infants School
- c. the building work takes place to the Junior School to accommodate the additional numbers, starting the first year our Foundation Stage children join the Junior School. (If the Junior School building work is phased in year by year then our Children will experience this every single year they are at Junior School!)

## **6. Road Safety Danger and Traffic Congestion**

The new children will be from outside our catchment area. This means there will be a **significant increase in road congestion and parking challenges** in the surrounding roads at drop off and pick up times. By 2020, when our foundation stage children are in their final year of Juniors, this will mean the potential for an additional 180 parking spaces being sought (and fought over) in the area. I regularly witness parking and "right of way" wars that take place every morning along Whirlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road. Police have been called on several occasions. The number 83 bus is regularly stuck on Silverdale or Dobcroft Road as double parking blocks access. How is encouraging more cars into a heavily populated residential area acceptable?

More importantly, the dangerous implications for the road safety of the children are very concerning. Parents usually start to let their children develop their independence in the last couple of years at Junior School by allowing them to cross the roads to school alone and making at least part of their journey without adult supervision. As a parent, how comfortable would you be with that knowing there will be an additional 210 cars in the area in a morning by 2021? And if we rein-in the children's development at that stage over safety concerns, how prepared, independent and confident will the children be when it comes to attending Senior School?

## **7. An unfounded "emergency" and unsubstantiated plans**

No legitimate emergency has been evidenced to justify the "temporary 2015 emergency expansion". Indeed, figures suggest Dobcroft have an over-provision of places for children in catchment for the next 4 years.

Conversely, Ecclesall School can demonstrate shortfalls within catchment and are campaigning to have additional places made available in conjunction with Clifford School. Why, therefore, was the "temporary 2015 emergency expansion" not accommodated at Ecclesall Infant School? And why are the plans for 2016 and beyond not being focused there?

I can't accept the argument that Dobcroft School is the more central school - for Dore, Topley and Ecclesall areas any journey time difference would be negligible if you were to provide the additional spaces at Ecclesall/Clifford (where it is wanted and can be accommodated) rather than Dobcroft (where it is not wanted by parents or residents and cannot be accommodated without significant negative implications for the existing pupils).

I have attended this morning's Consultation Drop In at Dobcroft Infant School and the Council Officer I spoke to seemed to be wholly in agreement with the points raised!

I would really like the Council to focus on a solution that genuinely put the children, not budgets, at the heart of the solution. Please ask yourselves: "Would I want this for my child?"

I look forward to your response and will also be calling on my local Councillors for their support.

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Good afternoon. I am a governor at DJS and previously a governor at DIS

Throughout all the discussions and meetings I've been involved in as part of this process, I'm yet to hear a satisfactory reason why a new infant and junior school cannot be built on the Bannerdale / Abbeydale Grange site. A relatively small amount of the land could house one or two classes for a new school and still allow SCC to sell a valuable asset. As it was previously a school, the locality should not bring huge objections to the table, and road access is quite reasonable at both the Carterknowle Road and Hastings Road points.

Attempting to force too many children into Dobcroft, which is already overcrowded, seems foolish when a perfectly acceptable alternative is available.

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Thanks for taking the time to reply. I think the main point I'd like you to take away is that there are a lot of people who just want their child to go to a local school whether this be a recently expanded one or not and they will not make their voices heard like the current/prospective parents at Dobcroft are doing at the moment. There is now somebody actually suggesting on the Facebook page that they have set up if they should ask Ofsted to re inspect as the council are using the outstanding status as a reason they should expand.

Hope the whole thing turns out well in any case.

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I am the parent of two children who currently attend Dobcroft Infant School and I have therefore been informed about Sheffield City Council's proposals to increase the number of pupils from a 90 place intake to a 120 place intake.

As you will be aware we have been told (without any consultation) that a temp measure of 30 additional children will join the school Sept 2015 but the proposal is that this additional intake into the school will continue each year. This will mean an extra 90 children on the small infant school site and over 100 eventually in the Junior School.

In your role as Facilities Manager (compliance ) I wondered what information had been requested from yourself as part of the decision to do both the temporary increase and also the proposed long term increase?

I am aware that the responsibilities within your role include responsibility for statutory Health and Safety monitoring duties in relation to premises. Setting of standards and performance levels and the monitoring of these with respect to the H&S issues and also ensuring compliance with and the distribution of new legislation or changes to existing.

I am aware of The Education (School Premises) Regulation Act 1999 and I would like some information as to whether the regulations within this act have and are being followed.

A basic example in this document is the requirements for toilet facilities , I am aware that the legal requirement for toilet facilities is 5% required for children aged 5 and over but this increases to 10 % for children under 5. I would like to know whether Dobcroft Infant School can provide this ratio from September 2015 with the temp increase and also over the long term proposals?

Parents and the community are gravely concerned over these proposals and I would appreciate your comments, information and thoughts on the above. We have been given a very short period for consultation so I would appreciate your response as soon as possible.

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As residents of Millhouses lane, we are extremely concerned about the proposed increase in size of the Dobcroft schools.

Currently there are two infant and junior schools in close proximity – Dobcroft and St Wilfrid's. Already more pupils are transported to these schools in cars than can be safely accommodated by the road infrastructure.

For local residents, this causes a number of problems:-

- Cars are always double parked
- Cars always park partly on the pavement
- Cars regularly park on faded double yellow lines and therefore too close to junctions
- Cars regularly park opposite the junction with Whirlowdale Crescent
- Cars often block driveways
- Drivers often blow horns.

Such blatant disregard for the Highway Code causes twice-daily problems for residents as well as motorists and pedestrians – total gridlock of Millhouses Lane and Whirlowdale Crescent, pavements inaccessible for innocent pedestrians and impossibility of access for delivery or other larger vehicles at these times.

Any more drivers, associated with increased school places, would inevitably use Millhouses Lane and Whirlowdale Crescent as the car park, compounding an already chaotic and dangerous situation.

It is important to bear in mind that 'local primary school places' might imply that pupils will be local, but children and their carers have forgotten how to walk to school.

Quite clearly the area cannot tolerate any further traffic congestion. It is only by sheer good fortune that accidents have not taken place. The proposal is simply not sustainable.

Our house overlooks the junction of Millhouses Lane and Whirlowdale crescent, and you would be welcome to come and witness the morning mayhem for yourself, if you wished.

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Am am writing regarding the proposed increase in numbers at Dobcroft school. My daughter is currently in foundation and my other daughter due to start in 2017.

I have read today, information about why pupils were turned down at appeal last year for places at Dobcroft. It states that the present classrooms are already too small and there is insufficient toilets available for the current children. How are you going to have another foundation class there this year with no increase in this provision. I am extremely concerned that we may lose the precious library to accommodate the class. This is a valuable resource. It is also where the after school club that my daughter attends is so there is a big concern over this.

In addition, as it is now said that catchment areas are to stay the same, it is obvious that the children it is supposed to be helping (Dore, Totley and Ecclesall) will have no chance of being in the extra class anyway. If the admissions criteria is the same, then all that will happen is Dobcroft's extra class will fill up from the nearby Holt House (who traditionally often put Dobcroft as first choice), leaving the extra pupils from Dore, Totley and Ecclesall presumably being offered schools further away. This will be extremely unpopular with parents.

The whole thing is very concerning. I am extremely worried about my daughter's education and the impact on the school and indeed the neighbourhood ie with extra traffic etc.

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I write as a parent of a child at Dobcroft Infant School to register formally my objection to the proposed expansion.

My son has just started in Foundation at the school and is a particularly shy boy. I cannot imagine how daunting it would be for a child in his position (having come from a nursery which was officially recommended to us by the school where there were on average only 10 children at any one time) to play in a playground with 360 children (not to mention the junior school children who are in the adjacent playground). The site is small and such a huge increase in pupil numbers will render it overcrowded and intimidating for the children.

The site on which the school is built is surrounded by residential roads which are already notoriously busy with parked cars and school traffic. We walk to school and it is often difficult to cross roads safely due to the large volumes of traffic. If the catchment area is extended the traffic problems will surely only be aggravated.

Whilst I appreciate the need for additional school places to be made available, doing so at Dobcroft Infants will in my opinion put unreasonable pressure on already restricted resources and risks damaging a successful school. It would seem that local opinion is in favour of additional places being made available instead at Ecclesall Infant School and/or Clifford.

Many thanks for your consideration of these matters.

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I am writing to express my concern at the proposal for a permanent extra class at Dobcroft Infant and Junior from September 2016.

As a parent with one child at the infant school and one at the juniors, I am extremely concerned that additional children at the school would exacerbate existing traffic issues. The Dobcroft schools are unique in that they are in close proximity to both St Wilfrid's and Mylnhurst schools. As a result, traffic and congestion and competition for parking spaces can make the streets around the schools extremely busy and, at times, dangerous for children and adults. Surely, the potential for up to 200 additional children travelling to the schools by car (from outside the area) would have a dramatic, negative impact on the surrounding area, creating further congestion, pollution and danger for pedestrians?

Another concern is the necessity for additional classrooms which would surely reduce valuable playground space and also space for outdoor learning, which is particularly important for children in KS1. Both of my children are already taught in temporary classrooms at Dobcroft, which isn't ideal. With even smaller spaces outside, playgrounds would become dangerously overcrowded. I realise that children can play at different times to alleviate this problem, but this would prevent them from mixing and forming relationships with children in other classes and year groups.

Another concern is the pressure on resources within the school. Currently all children can join together in the hall for whole school assembly or to watch a performance. How would this be possible with 90 (plus) extra children? The sense of a whole school community would be compromised. Likewise, shared resources such as the school library, hall for PE lessons and ICT suite would be placed under pressure. The school building and grounds were simply not built to accommodate such a huge increase in numbers. Demand for places at DASH child care and at the after school clubs would increase dramatically, meaning that a number of children would surely be refused places.

It is my view that a permanent increase in capacity at Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools would have a negative impact on children, staff, parents and residents in the local area. The proposal would change forever, what is a now a fantastic school which serves the local community.

Thank you for considering my views.

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I am writing to express my concerns over the recently announced expansion to the reception year group of dobcroft infant school for 2015/2016 admissions.

My daughter is due to start school in September and we spent a lot of time looking into possible schools. We chose to move into the area to ensure that we were in the Dobcroft/Silverdale catchment area. I emailed the council a couple of times to check catchment areas, and school intake numbers, and at no time was this increase in numbers mentioned. We only moved at the end of December, so there was plenty of opportunity to inform us of this increase, but we find out the week before the application deadline. We did not even receive a letter - I found out via other parents, which I think is disgraceful. It's as if we don't even have the right to know about decisions that affect my daughters education. The application packs that initially came out didn't mention a 120 child intake either. You must have been aware of this sooner and I feel it was wrong to keep this information from prospective parents. We are now left with no choice but to attend an overcrowded Dobcroft school as all other schools are over capacity.

I do not fully understand why the increase is to be made to Dobcroft, when the facilities are not there to support the extra children. From the research I have done, it would appear that there are less than 90 children this year in the Dobcroft catchment area, so why are Dobcroft having to create the extra class?

As a local resident, I am concerned for the increase in traffic that an additional 30-40 children outside of catchment area would bring. The traffic is already dangerously high. What provisions have you put in place to deal with this?

I appreciate that holt house, Ecclesall, Dore and Topley are also over subscribed, however, how do you know that this will ease the situation? People in Dore, Topley, and Ecclesall will still put their catchment schools as first choice. I know parents who live in Woodseats and Abbey Lane catchment areas who will now be putting Dobcroft school as their first choice. They live nearer than people in Dore, Topley and Ecclesall (for example, on Archer Road),

yet are not in an over subscribed catchment area. How is this helping people in Dore/Totley/Ecclesall, and what will you be doing to stop this happening?

I have read a document from Dobcroft school explaining why they couldn't admit any extra pupils last year. It states that the classrooms are below the standard of 67m. Also that there are not enough toilets for the Children based on requirements. When I spoke to the school, they were planning to lose the library, but no mention was made of extra toilets. What is the plan to address this?

In the same document, the cloakrooms are described as 'Very small and squashed' and being 'Intimidating and noisy for the children'. This is with 60 children to a cloakroom. There were no plans for building any new cloakrooms, and I was wondering what you will be doing to address this as I am very concerned for my daughter.

What provisions are in place for when the school loses their library?

The school is overcrowded and by increasing the size it is putting the children's welfare at risk, while losing outside space and not addressing the actual problem. I feel very let down that this has come to light just after moving house, and am incredibly disappointed by the council and the way the matter is being dealt with.

I have several times asked about plans to change catchment areas and have been assured that this is not the case, although it is now an agenda on the council meeting in March, so yet again I feel as though I have been lied to.

I would appreciate a response on the points I have raised.

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I am providing consultation as a parent whose child is due to start reception in the area in September 2015.

Having just read the consultation and been sent letters about the increase at Dobcroft in the last few weeks, I have a few comments to make.

1. The increase at Dobcroft in the long-term seems sensible once the infrastructure is in place to support it.
2. The current increase for Sept 2015 seems premature given the infrastructure is not yet in place. It would be good to know what steps you are taking to ensure the pressure on Dobcroft from the 'tester' additional places in Sept 2015 will not impact negatively on the provision for the new pupils, other pupils, and neighbouring houses?
3. As a general comment, Dobcroft was our number 2 choice for our daughter - the current changes now make this option less appealing than other schools. Despite the great reputation the school has, rather than encourage us to apply (with extra places being made available) the lack of current infrastructure has put us off a bit.
4. Are these extra places linked to the expected increase in schools provision in part required as a result of the development of the abbeydale grange and bannerdale sites? The consultation doesn't mention it specifically so I just wondered if the impending increase of family housing had already been considered?



Has the council thought about the impact this expansion will have upon 4 year olds attending school with 120 children in their year group?

Dobcroft is most definately already overcrowded. There is no way that 300 children can attend this school and be safe and happy. There will not be enough facilities for them to use and turning the school into a building site will have a huge negative impact on the children's education.

My little boy lacks confidence in new social settings, particularly around large groups of children. I know he will be intimidated by these numbers and we may be faced with a struggle to help him enjoy school. Children need space around them, at play times, in the dinner hall and space in their classroom.

The extra learning spaces Dobcroft has such as the library, the computer suite, small spaces to run interventions, the hub, the woods and the grassy areas need to be kept as they are vital in ensuring children feel safe and happy and that they can be themselves.

The decision to expand Dobcroft is the wrong decision. There is no need for more pupil spaces at Dobcroft. Expand other schools where there is a need.

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Below is a document that comes as part of the appeals documents sent to parents. I would like to submit it as evidence that the 2015 expansion, temporary or not, will compromise Health and Safety and cause immediate, foreseeable and avoidable breeches of several Health and Safety guidance for young children.

To be clear I have outlined them below.

Children in foundation stage two at school should have a classroom size of 67metres squared. The current provision is two classrooms at 62 metres squared and two classrooms at 58 metres squared. Existing provision is already in BREECH of guidance. How can you increase capacity with obvious disregard for Health and Safety Guidelines?

The school currently only JUST has sufficient toilet facilities to accommodate the current children. How can you increase the number of children as this would immediately cause a foreseeable BREECH of Health and Safety standards.

The Headteacher States "all available spaces are usually in use". There is specific referral to SEN children. Where are the 30 children going to go WITHOUT negative impact on the SEN children?

If these issues cannot be addressed before the 2015 intake arrive, then surely it should be stopped to protect the children and the council.

As this document states "while this is an 'outstanding school' it is already a crowded one with a projected deficit".



Re: Statutory Admission Appeals for Dobcroft Infant school June 2014

Dobcroft Infant School has an admission number of 270. The current number on role is 270. The Schools net capacity is 270. In September the guidance for space for children in the foundation stage changes and each classroom is supposed to be 67 metre squared. Our classrooms are 2 x 62 m squared and 58 m squared. Note this means that they are not even big enough for 30 children according to the new guidance. We also only have just enough toilets for 30 children in each class to be within the regulations which stipulate 1 toilet per 10 children in foundation stage and 1 toilet per 20 in Y1 and Y2. In foundation stage we have 4 toilets and 2 urinals between 60 children.

The school was built in 1969 and most classrooms have a shared cloakroom area for 60 children. These are very small in size and even with 60 children are squashed and can be intimidating and noisy for the children. In recent years due to the schools positive inclusion policy there has been an increase in children with SEN - several of these children require small areas to see visiting professionals such as the speech therapist and the educational psychologist and therefore all available spaces are usually in use. Dobcroft infant has twice the national average children at school action plus stage of SEN, which are those children who require the most support both from school staff and outside agencies. The current Y1 cohort is a very complex one with several children with behavioural needs in each of the three classes so increasing the numbers further would have detrimental effect on all the children in the class. We already know that 6 children in next year's foundation stage have SEN, and this might increase once we get all the forms back from the parents. These children will need to be supported. Two children in this foundation stage cohort are looked after and will require additional input.

Current numbers are as follows:

	Foundation stage 2	Y1	Y2
	30	30	30
	30	30	30
	30	30	30
Total	90	90	90
	SEN (13% SA+)	SEN (7% SA/17% SA+)	SEN (8%SA/11% SA+)

There are 3 teaching assistants in FS and 2 part time TA's in Y1 and Y2 on permanent contracts and 4 part time teaching assistants due to significant numbers of children requiring extra support

The school budget whilst providing 'value for money' (Ofsted 2007) is very stretched and finished the year -£6300

If the appeal panel admit any more children in 2013/14 or indeed 2014/15 this will create issues both for now and in the future. We have low mobility as a school, around 3%. While this is an 'outstanding' school it is already a crowded one with a projected deficit.

I hope this information is useful

Cathy Rowland

Please confirm receipt of this email and confirm when and how a response will be made to the specific requests for information?

I have instructions from John Bigley to follow up with him if this is not received shortly?

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I am writing to you as a parent and as a citizen who values community.

I am also writing to you as a person who lived in 4 different countries, including the USSR where bad planning led to disastrous results, as history so clearly shows.

It is important for our children to grow into strong, kind citizens of good character who can then contribute to the well-being of the country where they live. This is only possible when they go to a nice school, where they feel loved, appreciated and where they have the feeling of belonging. This is achievable only when there are local schools within local communities, and not gigantesque monstrous factories which will kill any desire to study and participate in the community life.

Us, parents at Clifford and also Ecclesall infant, we believe that both schools should be expanded, instead of the current plan to make a huge school out of Dobcroft only.

With the current plan to reinforce British values and a sense of belonging it can be done only when children know with whom they go to school.

I am also writing from the experience of Clifford. This is a lovely, beautiful school which has an amazing head-teacher who really cares about the children. Such schools should be supported and cherished in this lovely country,

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many thanks for your reply.

Statistically, it was pointed out that some statistics were misleading. It is not 30 places, it is more. More than 30 children didn't get a place at the mentioned catchment areas, so it means that more places need to be created at more schools.

Moreover, I don't understand the problem with expanding Clifford, as it has already the necessary facilities. And there is an empty building right in front.

Again, I don't think that saving on costs should be the main solution behind how to educate our children, but about how to nourish the best in them. Clifford is an amazing school with an amazing head-teacher and these kind of schools should be given any opportunity to thrive.

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I am writing to convey my grave concerns regarding the planned expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School. My son is a prospective pupil, due to start there in September. We moved into the catchment area 5 years ago so that he would be able to attend Dobcroft. Given that this year's expansion is apparently a 'done deal' as was communicated to parents at the recent consultation meeting, I wish I could now change our first choice, but our current circumstances don't allow us to travel further afield. I have signed the petition calling for the abandonment of these plans and I wish to state on record that I strongly object to them on the following grounds:

- Dobcroft is already a large school, operating in a cramped environment. There is no room for an additional 30 children. Just last year, Dobcroft were unable to accommodate children in catchment and their message was clear – we cannot fit even one more child in this school. What has changed?
- Where will the additional 30 children be put? What resources will be lost as a result?
- Other schools are more oversubscribed than Dobcroft, particularly Ecclesall Infants. Why is the additional class not being put there?
- Why are you 'advertising' Dobcroft to families who are not in the catchment area? How is this fair?
- The learning experience of the child is clearly very low on your agenda here. This move will have a negative impact on pupils and I am concerned that attainment will suffer.
- The emotional needs of the children are also being ignored – how will this year's young intake cope in such a chaotic and busy environment? Quieter children will surely be overwhelmed by the sheer size of this 'super-school'. What additional support will be provided for them?
- Why haven't you consulted on the plans to increase Dobcroft this year? Why is the consultation period for permanent expansion so short? Clearly you are attempting to push this through and minimise any opposition, which is neither fair nor democratic.

I could ask additional questions such as 'why did you not start planning for this when you were first aware of the need to place extra children' but there wouldn't be any point, we are where we are. However, I am quite frankly appalled that the council's lack of foresight and judgement will potentially be to the detriment of my son's education and emotional wellbeing.

Please address my questions and concerns with full and frank responses asap.

I am writing to give my comments for your consideration as a parent and local resident with regard to the upcoming proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School.

I have great concerns about the proposed plan to firstly offer places to 30 extra children in 2015 and then the further expansion from 2016 onwards.

This plan will have serious repercussions on the current children at the school because of the following reasons:

1. The school is just not big enough as it stands. The buildings are not fit for purpose , many are temporary buildings that have never been replaced and there is definitely not enough space for 270 children let alone adding in another 30 per year. My daughters class has 32 children and is extremely small has another class walk through it to get to their classroom.
2. The toilet facilities are in adequate currently eg: 2 toilets per 32 children in my daughters class. This contravenes hygiene standards as it is. There just are not enough facilities to accommodate the current children let alone a further class.
3. The proposed plan to put the extra class into the library displaces the after school club and this is an important facility for working parents.
4. There is very little safe parking around the school. Currently parents park on double yellow lines and on pavements in the surrounding residential area. Adding another class per year will be disastrous for local residents and more hazardous for parents walking their children to school.

While I can see the need for more primary school places, there are other local schools in this area that could have and actually want a third class instead of Dobcroft Infant school.

If this proposal is to go through please inspect the school and see how cramped it is with a current parent and local resident concerns.

Expanding the school to such an extent would be completely agreeable if it was totally rebuilt as a two storey fit for purpose building with up to date indoor and outdoor classes, toilets and sports facilities.

This school also suffers from lack of funding as a result of lack of unfair pupil premiums. Currently the school is facing a reduction in teaching assistants which is a disaster as there are at least a fifth of children with special needs in the 2014 intake. This makes absolutely no sense. Expanding the school without proper premises or appropriate funding for the current children will eventually be of detriment to all.

Please consider my comments there are alternative solutions to the current plan that is not acceptable to many parents and local residents as it stands.

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I would like to draw your attention to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School, which I am sure you are aware of already.

As a parent of children at the school and a member of the local community I have grave concerns on the impact of this potential expansion. My main concerns are highlighted in the email below which I would encourage you to read.

As a group of parents, we all feel very strongly about this and would be interested in your thoughts,

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On Tuesday, 27 January 2015, 21:59, ":

Dear Nick Clegg,

As a local MP for Sheffield Hallam I would like to draw your attention to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School, which I am sure you are aware of already.

As a parent of children at the school and a member of the local community I have grave concerns on the impact of this potential expansion. My main concerns are highlighted in the email below which I would encourage you to read.

We all feel very strongly about this and would be interested in your thoughts,

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On Tuesday, 27 January 2015, 21:52, ":

Dear David

I am writing this email to object to the proposed expansion planned for Dobcroft Infant School.

I feel very strongly that this is not the right solution for most importantly, the children at the school, and the local community.

I have a daughter at the school, currently in year one, and a son who is due to start in September 2015. We also live in close proximity to the school on Millhouses Lane so I also have a strong objection due to the potential vast increase in traffic which is horrendous most days.

I object to the proposal for various reasons, which I have highlighted below, in addition to this I would also like to complain about the process that the Council has gone through with regards to the expansion and the way they have consulted with those stakeholders concerned.

I attended the drop in session at school yesterday which was an utter waste of time. I feel that the parents of the children at the school deserve at least a meeting with the Council so that they can present their findings and proposals with the opportunity for parents to ask questions. Instead, we got many junior council representatives who didn't offer any response to our concerns but instead just noted them down - what was the point?

The person that we spoke to didn't even have local knowledge of the area and we overheard another Council representative who said that if their children were attending Dobcroft they would be extremely concerned too! I went away from the 'drop in session' feeling no better, in fact worse, than when I went in, it was simply a PR exercise paying lip service to concerns that are extremely important to myself and many other parents.

I would also like to highlight my disgust in the decision that has already been made for the intake in September 2015. My son is due to start at this time and it has left me feeling extremely uneasy about the start of his school life, how can you justify your decision without a thorough consultation? I couldn't believe it when I saw that the intake for children in the catchment for September 2015 was actually only 84, it became quite clear that the issue isn't in this area so why should we have to solve the problem? Dobcroft is big enough, and for a four year old child to start school in a year of 120 could be extremely difficult for many children. If I wanted this for my child we would have bought a house in Crosspool!

How does the 2015 intake also work out long-term?

If the proposed permanent expansion doesn't happen then how will this year be integrated into the school in the future? What about siblings, of those who are out of catchment but have in place at Dobcroft, two/three years down the line...would they get a place ahead of others in the catchment area? What about the secondary school - can Silverdale copy with an increase in numbers?

With regards to the permanent expansion, my main concerns are as follows:

#### **Catchment figures for the next four years below 90**

Referring to your figures all catchment children are due to get a place at Dobcroft in the next four years, the problem isn't with Dobcroft so why should our kids pay the price?

I find it bizarre that last year some people in catchment didn't get a place and had to find other solutions however, this year, when there isn't a problem we have to expand. I would also like to draw your attention to a letter from Cathy Rowland, Dobcroft Infant School's head teacher, which she wrote last year (June 2014) as part of the pack sent to parents when they are considering their appeals process, where she gave sound reasons as to why the school could not increase their intake by one child let alone 30, which further demonstrates the issues that we are now facing in September 2015

### **Site is too small**

Dobcroft School was originally built for an intake of 60 per year. The porter cabins, one of which my daughter is in, were put up as a 'temporary solution' over 30 years ago and are still standing now.

The cloakrooms are packed and often stressful for children, the toilets are extremely inadequate and the hall is constantly used with little flexibility to allow for other children to use it. These shared facilities, in addition to the library which will no longer be available from September 2015, are under constant strain and your proposals has given no clear indication on how these facilities will bear the brunt of the additional children. The proposals also compromise the already small amount of playground space that the children have and could result in huge health and safety risks for all children.

Having to split assemblies, school discos, fairs etc could also comprise the local community feeling at the school which is one of the reasons the school is so successful.

### **Quality of education**

It is proven that children do better in smaller group settings and that learning can be comprised as class sizes grow. My daughter currently has 31 children in her class with no full time teaching assistant. What will this be like in the future?

### **Local community**

As I mentioned above, I live within very close proximity to the school and already see huge problems with congestion and parking on a daily basis. The children's safety is being put at risk and this can't be overlooked. Only last week there was an altercation between a pedestrian and a driver who had parked illegally on double yellows. There is limited provision for car parking at the school and because most of the children will be coming from outside the catchment area this will only make the problem even worse. I have also already had two letters through the post from local residents who cite parking, traffic gridlock and damage to grass verges as some of the main problems. Have you ever driven around here at 8.30am and 3.30pm? With three schools close to each other the traffic can only be described as chaotic!

I would ask you to challenge anyone who thinks that this is the best solution for the current problem of school places, particularly against the backdrop of Clifford and Ecclesall who want the extension. It must be down to money however, how can this ever be compared to the damage that your plans will have on our children, their education and the local community?

I feel completely let down by the Council and feel very strongly about this issue. As parents, who value the school and our children's education, this is something I feel very emotional about and one which I, and many others, will fight for.

I urge you to reassess your decision for September and for a solution in the long-term and look forward to your response.

I will also be forwarding this letter to our local MP and parliamentary candidates.

We write to you with great concerns about the proposals to expand Dobcroft School. We feel it will have a very negative impact on our child and our two younger children who will be attending the school in future years.

Our concerns are listed below

1. We feel the school which is already a large school will become much too big and intimidating for our young children.
2. We feel the school will become very overcrowded at lunch times, play times and at after school activities such as School Discos.
3. We believe there will be inadequate shared space for our children, for example in the ICT suite, Library and the Hall at PE times.
4. We think further congestion at drop off and pick up times will lead to danger on the roads. Transporting three young children to the school will become increasingly stressful and dangerous.
5. We are concerned about the disruption and safety implications our children will be faced with whilst building work takes place to accommodate the additional numbers of children.

Overall We have many concerns about how expanding Dobcroft School will have a very negative effect on our child's school experience and ultimately their learning and development.

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As a resident i strongly disagree with more school places being created.

I have my drive blocked on a daily basis by parents, and avoid going back to my house at all if it around school time, the roads are totally blocked as we have schools at both ends of Whirlowdale Crescent, and there are people already parking over residents drives, double yellow lines, and restricted parking areas now.

The roads simply can not take further cars as the majority of parents drop off and pick up there children at school.

I would ask that whoever is considering this proposal come to view the mayhem on a school morning or the end of school, to witness how much chaos is created at these times.

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I would ask that some sort of further traffic restrictions are imposed as it is impossible for my self and neighbours to get on or off our drives at School times.

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Having read all the information I can lay my hands on about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft school I have decided I want to object to it.

1. The school is already a large school and I don't believe infant and junior schools should get any larger than Dobcroft already is. It is daunting for small children.



2. The hall and playgrounds aren't big enough to cope with more children. Lunch will be too rushed. The playgrounds will become even smaller if extra classrooms need to be accommodated when they should be getting larger.

2. If there are too many children to fit in the local schools the council should be building more schools not trying to cram more into existing ones.

3. The parking at that school is already ridiculous and dangerous. My children walk to school but it seems as though the extra children will be from farther away so they will have to be driven. This will make the roads more dangerous. I expect the local residents will be very unhappy about this.

I have tried to assess the situation from the perspective of the local community and not just from the perspective of a parent. I can't see any positive benefits other than the fact it saves money for the council.

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I am writing to voice my objection to the current plan to increase the intake into Dobcroft school.

I understand that the increased intake in 2015 is a 'done deal'. I was amazed to find out this evening, whilst attending the council drop-in session at the school, that there is going to be no extra builds to facilitate this increase in 30 children and the school will simply re-organise internally. How sheffield city council feel they can justify such a large infant school loosing its library and incorporating a smaller joint computers/library space is very disappointing. How is this going to benefit the children? Reduced learning space and reduced opportunity to share the shared resources (library and computers) is not in the best interests on the 2015 intake children. What will happen to the after school club which currently run from the library? Many working parents, including myself, rely on this after school club and we could not cope with a reduced intake into the after school club due to relocation, that this increased intake will bring.

I am totally opposed to the proposal of a permanent increase in 2016. Quite simply the school site is not large enough to accommodate that many extra children. The site is already overcrowded. Your planners may have surveyed the school site to determine that extra buildings are possible but this is not in the best interests of the children. Reduced outdoor space and the loss of our forest school so that extra children can be shoe-horned into an already overcrowded site in unacceptable. We need facts about this proposed expansion and the buildings that the council surveyors have deemed acceptable.

There is a genuine Health and Safety risk created by additional children in an already overcrowded and under resourced playground. The number of "bump notes" and incidents of playground injury are already well known to parents. When I told my 4 year old daughter that they are planning an extra foundation stage class next year her first comment was "there will be more bump notes then mummy". That is honestly what she said. This is the view of a 4

year old girls currently in reception. If she can see that the playground is already overcrowded then how can SCC not see the problem?

There are real concerns about toilet facilities, and the difficulties this raises in managing incontinence in such young children, and the general health and safety risk to the children from an overcrowded environment. Whilst more funding may be made available to improve toileting under the plans for expansion, this would be counterbalanced by the increased pressure on these facilities caused by the additional children. We ask to see the evidence re square footage per child currently available to children at DIS, and under the expanded numbers for 2015/2016, and then again is 2016/17 and 2017/18, to prove these meet legal minimums and thereafter national and Sheffield averages.

It's all well and good saying that ultimately how this increased is managed will be the responsibility of the school leadership. But they can only work with the facilities that they have. I would like to know how SCC in-visage lunch times at Dobcroft infants in the future? There is already a staggered seating. To incorporate an extra sitting would mean that children would be eating unacceptably early or later. Already existing children complain that the lunch lines are too long and they are opting to have a cold lunch in preference of waiting in the hot dinner line. How is this good for our children???

With only one school hall which will remain the same size, how do SCC propose to accommodate each Childs right to 2 hours of PE per week, given that the hall is required for other activities including providing a timely lunch for all children?

As a mother to an existing child at Dobcroft and a child who will start in 2016 I see no evidence that the welfare of the children has been put at the heart of the decision process.

There is real demand for expansion at Ecclesall and Clifford as an alternative and I would like to see evidence that this has been seriously considered as an option.

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I would like to give my opinion on the provision of school places in the South West of Sheffield. I have been unable to attend the consultation meeting regarding the expansion of Dobcroft school. I am not personally apposed to the expansion of Dobcroft at this time but this is selfishly because it doesn't really affect me at the moment. However I must say that if it turned out that my younger child had to attend Dobcroft I would indeed be against it. I looked around the school when I was looking for my eldest child and I already felt that it was overcrowded as it was obvious that classes had been squeezed in. Obviously this would only get worse. I can completely understand why local residents would be against the move. It would inevitably create a lot more traffic as the children who will be extra will not be local children who can walk to school.

I feel it is a great shame that solutions are not being created for all areas and that it is becoming increasingly difficult for children to walk to school. It seems very strange to me that there has been a proposed solution to some problems in the Ecclesall area which is not

being pursued. Ecclesall infant school is very lucky to have a very large amount of space that could be developed upon - either to expand the infants by a class or to swap with the juniors so that they can then have more space and the infants can have 3 classes in the junior school. Clifford school is also willing to become a junior school and this would create 30 extra places per year. Obviously the solution would cost money but any solution will cost money. It is very short sighted to just add an extra class to an already busy school that will not affect all areas. It really feels only sensible that any options that are available are pursued.

I understand that Dobcroft has been chosen as it will help with the Dore and Totley catchment but with the figures published 1 extra class in Dobcroft will not solve the problem for all the areas of Ecclesall, Carterknowle, Millhouses and Dore.

Thank you for your time in reading my reasons for thinking that it would make sense to expand Ecclesall infant, junior and Clifford C of E schools.

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I am writing in regard to the proposed changes at Dobcroft School

I have several concerns which may have already been highlighted to you from other parents, these are

- Parking – particularly as you are looking at growing the places to children out of catchment who would need to be transported in – it is simply not feasible for every parent to walk to school should you work full time as well as being a hazard
- Overcrowding and intimidation – Dobcroft is a successful school where children can get to know each other, it is large enough as it is without adding another 90 to the infants over 3 years and another 120 to junior school over the next 4 years. A total of 210 additional places, cars etc
- Prioritising special needs children over catchment. I am not against children with learning difficulties however the classrooms are already at a max size (31) with little funding and in many cases without a teaching assistant which is slowing down the learning pace of the children including my daughter who is young for her age.
- Allowing children out of catchment who have never been to the school before and have no siblings at the school – how should it be that some parents work full time and put their money into buying a decent house in a good neighbourhood yet what you are proposing is
  - 1) children from out of the area can attend the same school (Dobcroft will be inundated with people wanting to come here out of catchment because it is a renowned school) – it has got that way through good management and generally people caring about the area in which they live
  - 2) potentially do not have the same enthusiastic learning ethics of others living in the neighbourhood or may not even speak English as a main language
  - 3) I have to voluntarily fund my children to do many wonderful things at school where the government deems (without exactly saying it outright!) that Dobcroft should get little funding as it is considered to be a wealthier suburb so parents can fund their child and upkeep of the school
  - 4) Trips and learning visits may be severely reduced due to the size and funding needed – why should my child suffer because SCC want to make the school bigger
- WHY SHOULD I GO TO WORK FULL TIME TO PAY MY MORTGAGE TO LIVE IN A GOOD AREA ONLY TO FIND IM FUNDING OTHER CHILDREN WHO DON'T LIVE IN THE AREA?
- Disruption to my children at school including my youngest daughter who won't start until 2017 for the next 7 years – this will have a huge impact on their space to play, focus to listen and learn and environment – it is not healthy to live with building work daily for what will run into years regardless of what the contractors say

initially. Children especially little ones have no sense of danger and are filled with curiosity, I like my children living!

- Where will the library move to – you have already agreed a library is now to be a classroom – where does my children go to learn and read next academic year??
- Overcrowding of facilities – children take a long time to eat lunch – I am not sure how you have thought of the logistics of mealtimes – all children are hungry at 12 – how on earth are you going to get 360 infant children sat down, all eating hot school dinners –I am sure already the kitchen is at bursting point? What and where is the after school club going to relocate to – what am I to do work wise if my child can't get in as its too busy and I have no other arrangements ( as I have already said we are full time working parents so collecting early isn't an option). School discos and other fundraising events and school plays...how will these be possible?
- Dobcroft is critically underfunded and it is though parents support and generosity as I have mentioned above that the school continues to renovate itself. There are serious issues with the girls toilets which need replacing but that cant be done until parents raise several thousand pounds, who is going to fund the IT equipment for 360 kids in just the infants? More children means more wear and tear on school assets (library books, toys, play equipment, meal equipment, facilities etc).
- IF you are intent on expanding Dobcroft then I would like to register **I am completely against it unless IT IS FULLY FUNDED** and committed to whichever council gets in without a maximum spend limit as we all know costs spiral down the line and always have done with SCC, let alone probably my council tax to pay for all these other children! Equally the school needs constant increased funding for more teaching assistants – 1 is simply not enough in a classroom, if they even have that, to maintain the standard the school has set currently. And what happens when the birth rate drops and there aren't enough children will you support the school with the same funding still???

My email may be crude, a little blunt and these points may not be politically correct but these are my feelings and I would welcome your views and councillor support at the meeting in March to support these.

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We were dismayed to hear that the number of children at Dobcroft School was to be increased starting this coming September. We understand that some (if not all) of these children will be from outside the immediate catchment area. Presumably they will travel to school by car.

We already have problems with the amount of traffic at the start and end of the school day. Cars park on our cul-de-sac, often without due regard for the residents. There is double parking at the end of the road, which makes it dangerous to pull out into Silverdale Road between the cars. Sometimes access to and from our road is totally blocked. Parking is often not done in a responsible way, causing more obstruction. The bus stop is regularly blocked and also no room is left for the bus to get through. Zigzag markings and double yellow lines are ignored. Perhaps if you saw it at 8.30am or more especially at 3.30pm you would understand the difficulties for pedestrians and other road users.

We have often thought how dangerous this situation is for the parents/carers and the children who come on foot as they negotiate their way between the cars and try to cross the roads.

Another problem we have is that of litter. Parents picking up children often give them a snack, sweeties or a drink (out of a small carton). Wrappers etc are then discarded in the gutter or on the pavement, eventually finding their way up our drive and into our garden.

We were fortunate that when our children were of school age we were very close to the school. However, most of their friends from further away walked to school, only the ones living a really long way away were brought by car when the weather was bad.

We are really concerned about the possibility of an even greater amount of traffic parking irresponsibly and unreasonably.

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Hi - I would be grateful if you could clarify the situation for me - around the proposed review of catchment areas for Infant/Junior schools in the SW of the city. I did understand that in the light of recent revisions to predicted numbers for likely uptake of school places in the area that there was to be a review of existing catchment areas, prior to any proposals to change or increase the sizes of schools. This proposal seems to have dropped. Is this correct?

The current proposal seems to be simply to expand Dobcroft Infants this year [Sept 2015] with an additional class of 30, and also to make this a permanent expansion from 2016 onwards, without any review of catchment areas. What is the rationale for dropping any review?

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We have been made aware of proposals to significantly increase the size of the above 2 schools.

Although we have no objection to the increase in school size, per se, we would object to any such plans if they do not tackle the logistical problems that will arise, particularly on the roads around the entrance to the schools at peak times in the morning and afternoon.

As retired people, we are in a position to observe the traffic chaos arising at the above times due to the number of parents arriving to drop off/ pick up their children. This situation will clearly get worse if more pupils come from outside the catchment area.

Repeated incidents that have occurred include:

Parking at the bus stop at the bottom of Silverdale Road, or so close, that the bus is unable to access the stop.

Parking large cars (the Chelsea Tractors) such that the bus cannot get through.

Where there does not appear to be enough room then deciding that the grass verge will do, not just an incidental amount of say a couple of inches, but routinely putting over 75% of the car on the grass and only 25% on the road. Needless to say the verges are getting damaged but householders are unable to use obstructions (stones etc) because we will get fined.

You will be aware that at the junction of Silverdale Road and Dobcroft Road there is an island in the road which has double yellow lines all around it. We have seen cars parked on the island itself.

Using the wider area of pavement on the top side of the junction and immediately below the electricity sub-station as a parking space, obstructing the pavement, clearly without any thought of pedestrian safety.

It is noticeable that it is the repeated actions of a few who cause most of the problems. When challenged, (We know from discussing with neighbours), they are not apologetic and can be abusive.

They say they have no option and there is nowhere to park. There are 2 options here.

to park their cars a little further away (something they deem unacceptable) or  
not to use their cars.

It is surprising how many cars are used by local people within walking distance of the school. We recognise cars being parked that may themselves only have come 200 yards.

We have seen the controls you have in place to control the traffic outside The Ecclesall Church of England School on Ringinglow Road.

It seems to us that such a scheme could be beneficial here, assuming restrictions are put in place, far enough from the entrances.

Any scheme will have to have random checking for compliance, with suitable penalties, or this will be wasted time. It only takes one car to create a major problem.

We hope the above points are constructive.

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I am very concerned about the proposals you are making to add another class to each year at Dobcroft, this will mean at least a 33% increase in numbers at the school, This will have a high impact on the traffic volumes at beginning and end of the school day as the roads are already chaotic at these times especially with the proximity of St Wilfreds on Millhouses lane. Also, because the new intake is from outside the catchment they are less likely to walk. This will inevitable lead to more congestion, more pollution, increased wear and tear on roads and verges (for which the council takes no responsibility to maintain) and increased risk to pedestrians. The school will struggle to cope with the extra numbers especially in communal areas, the logistics of feeding the increased numbers are significant, its barely possible to serve lunch to the present school in multiple sittings.

The proposal is opposed by the governors of the school while Ecclesall is keen to expand. There must be other options, albeit less convenient, such as adding a class to one year in several different of the schools in the region in successive years. This would share the burden and spread the impact.

I hope this proposal will be reconsidered and a more sensible solution where the impact is shared among the schools in the area adopted.

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Thanks John - it does. But it doesn't answer the larger question - which is also going to be fairly contentious - about why the Council isn't consulting over the "temporary" expansion of

Dobcroft in advance of the proposed permanent expansion which is subject to consultation. This does make the consultation look a bit symbolic - especially as the expansion can't be 'temporary' if the intake has to flow on up through the Infant and Junior schools. The consultation documents do not address this issue.

Our Group will be publishing an article on this for our forthcoming Newsletter, so any further comments you have will contribute to that.

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I live on Dobcroft Road near to Dobcroft School, and I am really not happy about the proposed expansion there.

Twice a day traffic is an absolute nightmare up and down this road, and how there has not been an accident recently I will never know. there is constant damage to the grassed curbs with people parking on them, also parking over private drives, blocking in the residents.

As far as I am concerned, I believe this is a really bad idea, and I would like you to register my complaint.

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I attended the consultation evening on Wednesday which I felt was a waste of time. I left feeling frustrated and was made to feel like my feelings were unreasonable.

When I asked why we were not consulted over this years intake, I was told that 'regulations let us do this temporarily whenever we want'.

Some of my questions and concerns were answered by the head teacher who was in attendance, but on speaking to other parents and the council members, more concerns have been raised.

I know that this year is a 'done deal', which has made me change my school preferences, despite living about 0.2 miles from Dobcroft infant school.

However, having been to the school, and spoken to parents, I had no idea quite how bad the overcrowding currently is. Children have to go to lunch in their coats if they want to go outside after they have eaten, as it is too cramped for all the children to return to the cloakrooms to get dressed to go outside. How will this work with 30 extra children next year, as there are no plans to extend the hall or cloakroom facilities.

Also, it will be very hard to get everyone's lunches done in the small hall. Therefore they may have to remove equipment, or start lunches early. That would mean starting lunches at about 11.15 which I do not think is acceptable. I am struggling to see where children's welfare is playing any part in the decision making.

I am also finding it difficult to consult on something that I know nothing about. I have heard that if the permanent expansion takes place, there is no guarantee that any facilities will be improved, just 2 more mobile units put up for the extra classrooms and a toilet block. This would not be an acceptable solution in my eyes.

I am still disheartened and disappointed by the whole process and do not fully understand why this information did not come to light when the applications pack came out to allow me to make an informed decision about the area I moved to, and consequently my daughters future.

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We are writing as concerned residents of Dobcroft Road living opposite the gennel into Dobcroft Schools.

At present twice every weekday, from 8.45 to 9.15 am and from 3.00 to 3.45 pm, the bottom of Silverdale Road where it joins Dobcroft Road, Dobcroft Road from below the Zebra crossing Whirlowdale Crescent from Dobcroft Road end to Millhouses Lane together with

Millhouses Lane from Whirlowdale Crescent to Grove Road are all parked with cars on both sides of the road bringing and collecting children to and from Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools and St Wilfred's school in Millhouses Lane. This parking on both sides of the road converts all these roads into single lane traffic creating queues of cars, delays and difficulties for them and the regular 83 bus service trying to navigate its way down Dobcroft Road.

Adding an additional 30 children to the Infant School from September 2015 will create by 2021 a further 210 children attending the two schools. As most of the new children will be outside the present catchment area this will obviously entail a massive increase in the number of cars attempting to park in the already congested roads around the perimeter of the school grounds to deliver and pick up these children.

Apart from obvious driver frustration more drives will become blocked by desperate parents unable to find a free parking space, the parked cars make it difficult to drive in and out of people's drives because of blocked sight lines and tight turning space, crossing roads becomes dangerous for pedestrians and for children increasing the chances of accidents. The amenities of the grass verges will become even further damaged by cars driven across the edges.

Of course more diesel and exhaust fumes containing particulates, carbon monoxide and many other noxious pollutants will be created not helping lung function especially in children.

While realising that there is a need for extra school places would it not be more sensible if these could be distributed between Ecclesall Infants, Ecclesall Junior and Clifford Infant schools?

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I wish to register severe concerns regarding the proposed extra places.

I am a resident on Pingle Road and my objection centres around the massive traffic and parking problems that we already experience as a result of these schools which are situated in the middle of a tight residential area.

Our road is sometimes completely blocked by inconsiderate parking by parents dropping their children off at school and who are intent on parking as close to the school as possible with absolutely no consideration for local residents or road users or indeed the school children.

At times when cars are parked on both sides of the road, it is almost impossible for an average size car to pass through the gap left. You could only imagine the problems that might be caused should an emergency services vehicle need to access the area urgently.

On one occasion a car was observed by me parking in this manner as I was leaving for work and there was not even enough room for my car to pass through. I attracted the attention of the parent who was abusive and told me they would not be long - and expected me to wait. I can supply photographic evidence of a car that actually parked across our drive thus blocking us from leaving our house at all.

Parents regularly park on the verge causing severe damage to the grass areas and kerb stones.

Perhaps more important than any of the above, the congestion and consequent frustration caused by parents dropping children off poses a regular and severe danger to pedestrians and in particular young children walking to school.

My children attended both Infant and Junior Schools and enjoyed excellent education there. I believe the site itself could be expanded in line with the demands and provided that very serious consideration is given to the traffic management issues outlined above, I would have no objection. However unless solutions to the above are implemented as part of the process I will object at every stage and will work with other residents in the area to block this.

I believe that solutions could be found and I am happy to meet with the planners to discuss.



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As a local resident on Dobcroft Road I wish to object most strongly about the Council proposals to expand Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools for non-catchment children.

The traffic volume at school drop off and pick up times is already highly problematic and creates virtual gridlock for residents twice a day.

We already see regular road wars and heated exchanges where drivers come head to head on double-parked roads with no clear right of way. Police have been called on several occasions to deal with parking and access incidents on Whirlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road.

The fact that you are proposing non-catchment children come to the school means a potential increase of 210 cars in the area over the next few years - this is not acceptable. It also completely goes against your own green and environmental policies. We do not want more traffic, we certainly do not want more traffic air pollution.

School parking issues also already create major challenges for the number 83 bus which regularly gets completely stuck at the bottom of Silverdale Road and has to wait (holding up passengers and all other traffic) until parents of the parked cars reappear to move them.

We also regularly see damage to grass verges where parents and other road users mount kerbs either to park or to get around inconsiderately parked cars.

Most importantly I believe your proposals will considerably increase the dangers for pedestrians. This is a residential area with many local children who do walk to school. Visibility and erratic driving is already a big issue in the school area - I strongly object to having that risk increased further in my own neighbourhood by plans which have NO BENEFIT to the local community.

Finally, the school sites are much too small to accommodate the additional children and given that Ecclesall School is most in need of these extra places I request that you turn your attentions there.

Your plans for Dobcroft's expansion are not wanted by parents or residents and are of no benefit to the children or to the local community of Millhouses.

Please register my strongest objections.

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We are parents of 2 children at Dobcroft Infant School and I would like to have a response to the following questions over the proposed expansion and also the "temp" increase of 30 pupils as of September 2015 at Dobcroft Infant School.

-Please could we have a copy of the feasibility study done at the school for both the pupil intake in Sep 2015 and the proposed expansion in 2016.

- Please could you list the 5 key reasons why Dobcroft Infant School has been chosen as the school to expand. It is on the smallest site, it does not have any issues accommodating catchment children for the foreseeable years and it is already very cramped for the children.

- Ecclesall Infant and Juniors as well as Clifford School have petitions to increase pupil intake. Ecclesall School have far more land to accommodate children both of a temporary nature and also ongoing and Ecclesall Infant currently have a spare classroom ? Please

could you send me the feasibility study and outline why these are currently not being proposed as possible options to your current problem.

- Why are the council not looking at Netheredge School as an option, this school currently has places available (i believe in the 20's). Please could you advise what consideration has been given this option and why it has not been pursued?

- Dobcroft School site is already cramped, my son regularly returns home with bump notes from break time, how do you plan to avoid accident when putting extra children into an already very crowded outdoor and indoor space?

- What are the legislative requirements of playground space to ratio of children?

- What will happen to DASH the vital after school provision both in terms of where it will be located from Sep 2015 and also how it can accommodate extra numbers when some days are already full.

- After school clubs which provide children with much needed physical education and sports opportunities are already full with waiting lists on many of the more popular activities. How will you ensure that my children will still have access to this provision when there will be a huge increase in children and therefore demand. There are many national initiatives for children to get more involved in sport yet this could be compromised under the proposals and certainly the additional pupils in Sep 2015.

- We are aware of The Education (School Premises) Regulation Act 1999 and this details the requirements of toilet provision:

- Please could you provide me with current pupil numbers at Dobcroft Infant School, children 5 and under and children over 5.

- Please could you provide the number of toilets currently available for these children

- Please could you advise if this falls within the regulations as stated in the act.

- Please could you provide the number of children at the Infant school Sep 2015, children under 5 and children over 5.

- Please could you provide the number of toilets that will be available for these children from Sep 2015.

- Please could you advise whether this falls within the regulations as stated in the act.

- The resources in school are already pushed, tatty and as a school the children have to work with sometimes limited resources due to the financial pressures put on the school. How will you ensure that children in Dobcroft school are given and can use up to date, new resources and there is enough provision of resources to accommodate a huge amount of extra children.

- The school is seen as an outstanding school as per the OFSTED report but this is now outdated and was done many years ago. Please could you advise if an OFSTED inspection can be requested. I believe that you are making decisions on an outdated report.

- The intake of extra pupils are to be accommodated in the library, where does Dobcroft Infant School intend to have the vitally important library resource from Sep 2015?

- It is more important than ever in the technological world that we live in that our children will be educated to understand and use technology. They are already very limited to the amount of time each week that they have to use the IT suite ( I understand it is currently only 1 hour per week). How do you propose children will still receive imperative IT training with increased pupil numbers on an already minimal resource?

- Access to Dobcroft is already over crowded with school drop off and pick up times a risk to childrens health and safety, this is both at the main entrance and at either end of the cinder path - Dobcroft Road and Millhouses Lane. What plans do you have in place so that these already busy and small entrances can accommodate the proposed increase in pupil numbers and do not propose a health and safety risk to both pupils and local residents?

- I am in receipt of a letter written by the Cathy Rowland dated June 2015 , it is part of the outcome of the appeals to children who did not get into the Sep 2015 intake, I am sure that you have a copy of this letter? This letter categorically states that Dobcroft Infant School cannot accommodate extra pupils and goes into great details as to why. This includes the square metre space within the classrooms, the lack of toilet provision, the amount of SEN pupils and the extra presure this puts on the resources. I would like a response to every point in the letter and why only approx 6 months later this doesnt appear to be a considieration.

I await your response

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I knew about the drop-in sessions because my two eldest attend Dobcroft Infant School, but I think it is appalling that this letter to local residents has arrived on Friday when the last drop-in was on Wednesday. You cannot plead snow as an excuse because the snow started to fall on Wednesday evening, after the final drop-in!

It shows disorganisation and lack of forethought. As a local resident, I am extremely disappointed.

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I write to object to the proposal for extra places at the above school in Sheffield. My reasons are as follows:-

The extra cars will add to the already congested traffic at pick up and drop off times.

I have lived on Whirlowdale Crescent since 1973 (42 years) and during that time have arrived home on several occasions to find a car parked directly across or partially across my drive. As you can imagine very annoying especially having to park some distance away until the car has driven away.

I feel extra cars would only add to the already congested traffic at the relevant times and would also make it even more dangerous.

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It is absolutely appalling that the council have taken the decision, without consultation with anyone affected, to create an extra 30 places for the September 2015 intake at Dobcroft Infant School.

As a prospective parent at the school for this year, why would I want my daughter to be 1 of 120 pupils when 1 of 90 is already more than enough, given the already limited and overcrowded facilities at the school? Why would I want her to be sharing a classroom with children from outside of catchment that may not have a very good command of the English language (especially if the children come from the Holt House/Carterknowle areas of the city as we know they are likely to, who are likely to change their school preferences now that there are extra places available - due to the current standard of their schools)? And even if the 2016 plan does not go ahead, why would I want her to be part of a 'temporary 120 intake year' throughout her primary school life?

It is clear that there is absolutely no need within the catchment area to expand Dobcroft School, either for the 2015 intake or beyond, and that the council should be taking a longer term view and expanding Ecclesall Infants to a 90 intake (where there is space to do so) and making Clifford Infants a through primary.

As local residents to the school, we pay a premium because the school is of a high standard - and making these changes will inevitably affect the quality of education and the school as a whole. Not only will this devalue our house, but the extra traffic and pollution caused by all those extra cars will also contribute negatively to the quality and safety of our family life and the school children's, as well as the desirability of our home.

I am absolutely against Sheffield City Council's proposal for all of the reasons above.

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My son is currently in Dobcroft infants and his brother will attend in 2017. I would like to raise my concerns about the proposed expansion at Dobcroft infant and junior school.

From the information that the council has supplied, I cannot see how the proposed expansion addresses any of the catchment concerns. I feel the data is contradictory and has been a 'knee jerk' reaction. Dobcroft's intake is predicted to reduce, whilst others continue to grow. How does this solution address the shortage of places at Sharrow / Porter croft and the predicted unfilled places at Nether edge school?

There is further concern about traffic. I have almost been knocked over en route to Dobcroft 4 times on the crossing on Millhouses lane. The journey to school will become perilous should the expansion go ahead. Traffic and double parking is a concern on whirlowdale too.

Furthermore, I believe Clifford have the space to house another class within the existing building or purchasing the residential property next to the school. This frees places at (and is supported by) Ecclesall. I believe Hunters bar can also accommodate another 15 pupils. Why waste tax payers money if space exists elsewhere? Can schools with better Ofsted ratings in the south of Sheffield support those that need it? This would be a much cheaper option?

As a parent, I believe in a comprehensive education system and recognise the SW needs more school places. I do not believe, however that increasing numbers at Dobcroft addresses the issues raised and would be grateful if you could outline how it does. There are other options that need full consideration. Consequently, I am against the planned extension to Dobcroft school.

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I wish to object to the proposed increase in pupil numbers at dobcroft junior school. The traffic chaos is already too much and even now causes problems with householder parking and driveway access and with buses not being able to get up and down silverdale and

dobcroft road. As it stands, I regularly have my verge damaged by careless drivers whose only interest obviously is dropping their kids off.

If more pupil numbers are increased, can I suggest that the path at the rear of dobcroft school be widened so that a one way traffic lane be constructed thereby allowing the drop off and pick up at the rear entrance of the school and that part of the fields at the rear be sacrificed to allow for temporary parking and drop off.

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As I was unable to attend the drop in sessions at Dobcroft Schools, I would just to briefly offer my views on the proposed school expansion. I know you will have heard many negative views, but as a parent whose child is due to start school in 2016 I would broadly be in support of the expansion as this gives me peace of mind my child will get into the school, which at present is uncertain and this does worry me.

However, the present Dobcroft buildings are not fit for purpose and are very overcrowded, so I could only agree with the proposals if they are supported by a fully redeveloped school site, with new classrooms, etc. I know you have stated its impossible to give full details of how the extra numbers of children would be accommodated, and would be subject to planning permission (but as its the council who grants planning permission I find it hard to believe you can't provide a more robust plan).

It seems such a shame you can't build a whole new school on the old Abbeydale Grange school site, it has sat unused for so long and would be a perfect location. Someone should consider this further.

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I am in receipt of your letter to residents near to the Dobcroft schools in regard to developments at the schools.

We have no concerns with regard to the proposed developments other than issues regarding car parking on nearby roads at school drop-off and pick-up times.

However we do have a concern that we received your letter on the morning of January 30th 2015 and the letter included the information that Council officers would be at the schools on January 26th, 27th, and 28th January 2015 to answer questions.

This is clearly ridiculous!

Are you intending to re-schedule officers availability at some point after notification of same or has the opportunity to talk to someone about this passed us by?

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I used to be a governor at Dobcroft Junior school..and well remember the discussions when places were being restricted because of a falling birth rate - we said at the time it was a mistake to cut back then..

However I don't have a specific view on the expansion plans at Dobcroft but my concern is about the catchment lines. It seems to me that this is the ideal chance to redraw the lines slightly to make sense of the situation on the ground and correct some historic anomalies. When you look at the catchment maps it seems strange that the the bottom of Springfield Road, Hastings Road, Helston Rise are still not part of Dobcroft catchment. Over the years there have been numerous appeals and problems for people from these roads (including

ourselves) for getting into Silverdale having being accepted by Dobcroft infants and Juniors. Most of these have been ultimately successful but the cost of this process to the authority must be considerable. I calculate there are about 150 houses in this area (not including the bungalows occupied by more elderly residents).

Given the proximity to St Wilfred's RC school, where many local parents choose to send their children, and that closure of Abbeydale Secondary this I suspect would not lead to a great number of extra children (particularly as many of the houses are quite large and financially out of the reach of young families). Whilst on the map these houses look quite close to Carterknowle and Holt House they are not actually as:

- there is a large hill in the way forming a natural barrier
- walking routes are now limited to the main road or woodland areas that you wouldn't want unaccompanied children to walk through

Looking at the catchment map for secondary schools I see that the area is still drawn around Abbeydale despite the school no longer existing - I'm not sure currently (not having school age children anymore) which 'our' secondary school would be currently. I think this should be looked at carefully in light of the planning for expansion of schools and bear in mind where peoples geographical loyalty is. If you live on Springfield Road you are in the heart of Millhouses, you are likely to use local shops, churches, clubs, pubs etc in the Millhouses area not the Carterknowle area. Think about children being able to get to local friends on foot (something we should be encouraging).

I hope that these comments will be taken seriously and passed on to the relevant committee I have no vested interest in this myself anymore but feel strongly that encouraging all things 'local' is so important.

Looking forward to your response

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I am writing to you on behalf of the Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools After School Club (DASH) Committee, made up of volunteer parents, the head teachers from each school and the management of the after school club. We wish to ensure our needs are considered in any future decisions about a permanent expansion of the schools and would like to draw your attention to the specific points below. The After School Club is an essential service for the many working parents in the Dobcroft area.

### **Sept 2015 Position**

1. The Infant After School Club is currently based in the Infant school library which DASH rents from the school to provide after school care for up to 42 children between 15:30 - 18:00 daily. The current library will be used to house the additional class joining Dobcroft in Sept 2015 which means we need to vacate this space by the last mid-term break to ensure the school can make the necessary preparations. The club is fully booked on some days with more reception children than either Year 1 or 2 at present.
2. An alternative room (The Hub) had been offered to the After School Club however this would mean a reduction in space and hence in numbers of approximately 28% (maximum 31 children). We felt this was not acceptable as some children who currently attend DASH could not be offered a place in the last half term.
3. Instead the school has kindly offered us use of the ICT suite which will become the new library and is of similar size to the current library. We are investigating the suitability of this space and hope that this will be usable thanks to the school's flexibility, however we also

need space to store equipment and prepare food for the children in an already crowded school.

4. If the above space proves suitable, we will need an additional gate installed outside this room for safety.

5. It is assumed that there will be further demand for DASH in Sept 2015 with 30 additional children joining the school and it is likely that we will be unable to accommodate the demand.

### **Considerations for the Permanent Consultation**

1. In addition to the above arrangements for the infant school, DASH owns a mobile building on the Junior school premises which runs a breakfast club from 07:45 to 08:50 for children from both schools and an after school club for up to 42 Junior school children from 15:30 - 18:00. The space is supplemented by an adjoining mobile, owned by the Junior school which DASH rents from the school in order to accommodate the demand for the after school club. This space is also used to provide full day care on Inset Days and some school holidays.

2. Should the intake of children increase across all year groups, it follows that there will be further demand for DASH at both schools. Consideration must be given to the provision of additional space for the morning and after school clubs at both schools in this situation.

3. Following on from the above, it is possible that the existing school spaces that are rented to DASH may be required to accommodate the addition classes which will leave DASH in a situation where we have increased demand and less availability.

We hope that you also consider the needs of the after school club in your decision. Should you require any further information from us then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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Reference your letter of 16 January we agree that the increased capacity is good for the area but we do have concerns re Irresponsible parking by parents dropping off and picking up the children sometimes making it impassable for local residents and for emergency services, coaches and lorries to get through.

As the extra capacity will incur more traffic something will need to be done to improve access to Dobcroft Road, Whirlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road

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As parents and residents connected to Dobcroft School, please could you provide the following information urgently:

1. You contacted parents in the South West area of Sheffield in January to advise of the additional "emergency" places you were creating at Dobcroft School and given that all submissions are now received by yourselves, please advise what number of parents changed their first place choice from their catchment school to Dobcroft Infant School following your communication.

Please break down your response to show:

- 1. Number of children who have selected Dobcroft as first choice whose catchment school is Dore Infants
- 2. Number of children who have selected Dobcroft as first choice whose catchment school is Ecclesall Infants

- 3. Number of children who have selected Dobcroft as first choice whose catchment school is Greystones
- 4. Number of children who have selected Dobcroft as first choice whose catchment school is Holt House
- 5. Number of children who have selected Dobcroft as first choice whose catchment school is Netheredge
- 6. How many children overall have selected Dobcroft Infant School as their first choice for admission in September 2015?

2. We understand you have suggested a budget of £2.1m to cover the building work required at both Dobcroft Schools. Please provide a summary breakdown of the spend to show how this figure was arrived at.

As we have only 9 days until the close of consultation, and these should be details easily to hand, we would appreciate it if you could respond with urgency on this.

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**Let me make it abundantly clear that I am firmly AGAINST the following proposals:**

- 1, AGAINST the proposal to increase Dobcroft school 'temporarily' by 30 pupils for the Sept 2015 intake
- 2, AGAINST the proposal to increase Dobcroft school by an additional class in each year.
- 3, AGAINST any proposals for expansion at Dobcroft School.

**I will tell you what I am FOR:**

A, Improving the standard of facilities currently being provided to the current school intakes

- Create additional Toilets.
- Replace the 'temporary' classrooms with permanent structures.
- Provide plans for improving the physical class square footage

B, Better funding for the school which is week on week requesting additional funding from parents to support the school.

C, A more recent OFSTED inspection to assess the current service being delivered to our children. Prove to me that the school is currently 'Outstanding' and if you do 'force' through the change, that any increase isn't impacted adversely by a second inspection after the change.

D, SCC locating an alternative site to create a NEW school, not temporarily patching a long-term issue.

- Re-Zone some of Ecclesall Woods to create a NEW Eco-School – Self-sufficient, sustainable, green and a learning resource for other schools in the city to learn about the eco-technologies and infrastructure at the school. Let's have SCC being the forefront of developing a better city.
- Expand sites with more square footage per pupil than a 'centrally located' (over populated) school. Build Outstanding schools on the fringe and people will come.
- Focus your attention on making the Satisfactory/Good/Needs Improvement schools 'OUTSTANDING' so you don't have them all trying to apply to a few select schools.



E, Stop approving NEW Residential buildings in areas on the sites of former schools without creating space on those sites with the infrastructure to support the new residential population.

F, Providing better change room facilities. Currently a very small area for 60 children.

G, SCC being responsible for the maintenance of the rear footpath running between Dobcroft Road and Millhouses Lane

- Re-pave the footpath (this may assist dog owners in respecting the use of it by young children)
- Clean all the dog excrement from the footpath which gets dragged into the school yard and classrooms
- Clear the footpath of all the nettles that are so prevalent and a significant hazard, especially during spring/summer/autumn
- Clear/Grit the footpath when it snows/icy

#### **Issues with the expansion:**

- The school toilet facilities are already insufficient for the current intake. My daughter has in her few year at the school had a couple of accidents... not because she hasn't got the toilets in time, but because of the queue waiting to use them. This has never happened at home/friends or in the last 12 months of nursery.
- Expansion compromises quality indoor and outdoor spaces - threat to library, computer room, Forest School area, after school clubs and DASH, and massive health and safety risk in the playground and hall
- No proposed plans of how the 30 pupils will be managed throughout the first and ongoing years.
- No plans as to how or where the 30 pupils will be housed. Inadequate feasibility studies and no capacity of physical expansion the DIS site – it is too small!
- No proposed plans of what building work will take place on the site, when and for how long it will impact the welfare and safety of the pupils
- What the square footage per pupil is now and after the non-existent plans are drawn up
- The roads and infrastructure around the school is already in my experience operating at capacity. An extra 180 pupils will be a logistical nightmare
- Having a building site for several years of my child's schooling
- No explanation of how site will be managed during the building process
- What evidence have you that the rights of the children are being put first or even considered as part of this plan
- Ecclesall & Clifford have far more of a case for PRO expansion both in space available and support than Dobcroft.
- Inability to maintain & deliver quality education - its proven that children do better in smaller school settings and that extra numbers could compromise learning
- Explain what changed? - Taken from an article in the Guardian 17th May 2013: Colin Ross, a school governor and the Liberal Democrat shadow cabinet member for children and young people on Sheffield city council, argues that primary schools should ideally not be bigger than 420 children – the equivalent of two classes of 30 in each year group. "Parents want to know that primary school teachers know their children. If a school becomes bigger than 420, it is very difficult for staff to know each child. At primary school age, it's very important for children to know adults at their

school to feel comfortable. We should be building more schools, not fitting more children on to already squeezed sites."

Furthermore, I echo all comments and concerns raised by the Change.org petition and Social Media Facebook pages:

- [https://www.change.org/p/help-stop-sheffield-city-council-from-squeezing-extra-classes-of-pupils-into-the-already-overcrowded-dobcroft-infant-junior-schools?after\\_sign\\_exp=member\\_sponsored\\_upsells](https://www.change.org/p/help-stop-sheffield-city-council-from-squeezing-extra-classes-of-pupils-into-the-already-overcrowded-dobcroft-infant-junior-schools?after_sign_exp=member_sponsored_upsells)
- FB "Dobcroft Expansion Parents Information Exchange"

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I have applied for an infant school place for my son, .....for the September 2015 entry. We live in the Dobcroft Infant School catchment area (65 whirlowdale road) and have put this school as our first choice however we haven't received a letter from you regarding the Consultations going on this week at the school.

I only heard about the proposed expansion of the school year from local friends who have received a letter.

I am concerned as to why I haven't received a letter and wanted to check how that has happened. My worst fear being that there has been some glitch regarding ..... application or with our address on your system.

I'd be really grateful if you could help me with this and send the letter regarding the school to us.

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Many thanks for your response.

Could you please confirm, in regard to the nine cases of temporary school expansion listed, whether in each of these cases this was done without consultation with the school, governors and local residents - as has been the case with Dobcroft Infant School.

Apologies if my question was unclear, however, I specifically wish to know (i.e. not as broad as "following a similar process"), in regard to the recent cases of temporary expansion of schools, how many times was this done with no consultation whatsoever, and that it was made clear that the school would have no say in the issue. This has clearly been the case with Dobcroft Infants, indeed the Chair of Governors, Jason Rockett stated "the school was given no choice in the 2015 decision".

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We have only today received your letter dated 16th January 2015 about Dobcroft junior school: consultation on extra places.

As we have missed the drop in sessions we would wish to raise the following point:- we live at 230 Millhouses Lane ,quite a distance from the school but the parking on Millhouses Lane already stretches as far as our house during morning and afternoon delivery and collection times .Because of the proximity of St Wilfrids and Mylnhurst there are occasions when an emergency vehicle could not access the properties on the lane. Thoughtless and illegal parking ,blocking pavements and junctions , adds to the general problem. An increase of 30 students per year would only exacerbate the problem.

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I have today (2nd February) received an important consultation letter dated 16 January on the above topic from David Metcalfe (School Organisation Project Officer).

By this late delivery I have been denied attending any of the four 'Drop-in' sessions all of which took place in January.

I STRONGLY OBJECT to what amounts to a device designed to prevent nearby residents asking questions and providing feedback at these Drop-in sessions. Further Drop-in sessions should be arranged and the consultation dead-line of 11th February extended to accommodate these sessions.

What is being proposed would have a great impact on the area in which I live.

I look forward to hearing that I and perhaps others living nearby will not be denied our democratic right to ask questions from Council Officers and to give our views.

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I am writing to register my opposition to the current plans to increase the intake at Dobcroft Infant school.

I am a parent of a child in the school, have a younger child who will hopefully go there, and am a very local resident who has to deal with the traffic problems that already exist at drop off and pick up time.

The school is already full to the brim. There aren't enough toilets for children already there. Lunchtime already takes all of the allotted time to get every child fed, and two classes are already in 'temporary' classrooms - and have been for a very long time.

From the information I have seen, the places available are sufficient for the expected intakes over the next few years. Geographically Dobcroft may be in the right area for the overflow of the other local oversubscribed schools, but that is the only reason I can see for Dobcroft being the school that is extended. The actual layout and footprint of the school is certainly not adequate for expansion. Also it is already larger than most of the other local schools. So why should it be increased more?!

We moved to the area for a good school. We could have chosen a school of dobcroft's proposed size - but we chose to move away from that school for that very reason.

As a local resident I object to more children attending Dobcroft from out of catchment as there is already traffic chaos caused by parents parking around school. Often the bus becomes stuck and has to wait. Roads are blocked and it is dangerous for children trying to cross the road safely.

Expanding Dobcroft seems like a short term reaction to a problem that surely should have been flagged up years ago. Surely someone at the council looks at local birth rates and links this to school intake?! So why the sudden shock that local schools don't have enough places for THIS academic reception year?

Other local schools are asking to be expanded. I find it ridiculous that a school that really does not want, nor is really viable to be expanded, is.

I have seen that the council is not willing to look into the problems of the hall being too small, too few toilets, residents objections and local traffic issues will not be looked into until planning is being sought. How much time and money will this waste if then there are too many issues/objections to go forward?

I look forward to a response.

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I am writing to you to ask that you please reconsider the proposed expansion of Dobcroft schools. The site is locked in by houses with little land to spare. The school buildings & playgrounds are cramped & overcrowded & in quite a poor condition. The field is regularly unable to be used/played on because of muddy/boggy conditions. The classrooms & cloakrooms are cramped & children eat in classrooms in stages at lunchtimes as the hall cannot accommodate them. This also means they have to eat in a rush & regularly do not have enough time to eat. Also, the increased traffic would cause further dangers on what is an already difficult school run. Please re-evaluate the situation to see if there is a better solution.

This is the opinion of a large group of parents.

Thank you for your attention.

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We were very concerned to receive the letter about the expansion of Dobcroft School.

We do not know why you have chosen this school to expand but would like to comment on the 5 points made. All of them are valid. We live at the bottom of Silverdale Road so see the virtual gridlock mentioned twice a day. Parents park regularly AT the bus stop and opposite it and we have witnessed several occasions when the bus simply cannot get through. What if an emergency vehicle needed to get through? A full sized fire engine is as wide as a bus.

If you go ahead with this you need to ensure that there are more double yellow lines in the area and that the parking rules are **enforced**. A few fines would surely deter the parents from parking all over the place, at the bus stop, on the verges, across people's drives etc. We have not yet been blocked in but almost and it is very difficult for us to reverse out of our drive at these times when cars are right up to our exit on both sides.

We would like to register our objection to this plan.

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I am a parent a child who attends Dobcroft Infant School.

I would like to outline a few of the things that concern me regarding Dobcroft School at the moment that I would like to think that the Sheffield City Council and Dobcroft have a duty of care to all the children that attend the school at the moment.

Some of the issues :

1. toilet facilities there are not enough for the children in the school at the moment and their have been incidents of children wetting themselves whilst queuing up.
2. The school hall just about holds the children for lunch time and children are rushed in / out in order to get the food eaten within an hour
3. Supervision at lunch time - their is normal only 4 members of staff/ helpers to supervise have many parents that have witness this - children are bumping into each other, staff are not able to see all incidents.
4. Class rooms are already below the legal requirement for 30 children in a class

5. Duty of Care to the children that are already at the school should be paramount before any other children are introduced into the school.

6. An issue with infections in the classes

7. The entrance into the school especially the back way is over grown, some parents see it as being unsafe, dog excrement which children more than parents carry in on their shoes then they children are asked to sit on the carpet.

My understanding is that Dobcroft is deemed to be the best location -when the information I have read states that some school are under subscribed so why aren't those schools used first?

I have also been advised that a letter was sent out to parents outside the catchment areas in a 3 mile radius to ask if they would choose Dobcroft if they had the chance and that information to be returned within 2 weeks.

If these figures are taken into consideration for the 2015 intake then that would give the impression that Dobcroft is over-subscribed when really it is not.

We live in a Society where reputation seems to counts more that children whether it is true or not - Dobcroft are always requesting money from parents and fund raising for the lines on the playground, for getting new toilets which they have only had one set done and looking for more money from us to do the others. It seems that Dobcroft need to get the school up to standard for the children that attend.

The school is meant to represent that of the parent the act of 1893 the term "in loco parentis" was used to describe the duty of care that a teacher has towards a pupil"

The rise in children has been known for some time a school was demolished on Abbeydale Road that could have been used to resolve this problem or could have been potential. I do not understand why that would be know down with all that land and then you trying to added a wooden hut into small space and reduce the facilities for the children that already attend.

I do not feel this is the right decision and I feel that it is being raced through it is not the solution to the long term problem we all face.

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I have been thinking about the expansion of Dobcroft and I understand that you claim that Dobcroft is central to the area and so we will fill the extra 30 places.

However I am concerned that the children that fail to get into their catchment school in the Dore and Topley and Ecclesall schools will still not get a place at Dobcroft if places will be allocated to children who are closest to the school (ie from Holt House / Netheredge). So where will they go? How does expanding Dobcroft help them?

Will children who are not offered their catchment school be given preference for places created at Dobcroft?

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I would like to formally ask the question, How many parents at each of the local schools set to benefit from the expansion at Dobcroft, actually changed their childs application, in light of the letter from the council in January, to include Dobcroft Infant school as a selection?

I am specifically asking for the numbers for the individual school catchments.

The reason I am asking for this information is because I may want to raise the concern that the extra places may not target the catchments where there is a provision crisis.

I have spoken with several parents who are applying to Ecclesall Infants as their catchment school. I asked them if they had put Dobcroft down given the extra provision this year and the answer was no. They want their children to go to a school that feeds into their catchment secondary school.

I then spoke to some parents at Holt House and asked the same question. They answered yes, as they thought Dobcroft was a better school.

I appreciate this is not scientific, which is why I am requesting the information from you. If it does confirm what I have found, then I wish to raise the following concern;

The extra class at Dobcroft will not target catchments where there is a provision crisis, instead it will target catchments with enough provision and perhaps ultimately lead to closure of such schools due to reduced up take.

Clearly to raise this concern I need the information before the end of the consultation. I appreciate this is not very long at all, but this is due to the entire consultation being incredibly short.

I look forward to hearing from you,

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My child is currently at Dobcroft Infant School.

In view of your proposals to expand the school in order to accommodate extra demand for places, please confirm what you intend to do in relation to positive discrimination and the intake of more pupils from ethnic minorities. At the moment, there is a very low ethnic minority intake of pupils attending Dobcroft Infants.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

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We are writing to object to the planned increase in class numbers at Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools. We have 2 children at Dobcroft Infants School and a third who will start in Sept 2016. We object for the following reasons:

1 – the outdoor play space is already very limited and crowded given the number of children already at the school. They are not allowed to play football or other ball games very often due to lack of space. We do not see how more children can be packed into this small space without it being to the detriment of them all.

2 – The playground supervisors find it difficult to observe and supervise the children during play times already, and this would be even more difficult if the playground becomes more crowded

3 – the school hall, ICT suite, library and the other communal facilities are over-stretched as it is – the school finds it difficult to get all the children through the hall for lunch, and we cannot see how they can prepare and serve dinner adequately for even more children

4 – DASH (the before and after school club) uses the library for their club, and are unsure where they will be relocated to – or even if they will be allowed to continue functioning. A lot of the children (including mine) are used to going to DASH and it would be unsettling for them – and difficult for us as working parents – if this facility was not allowed to continue. We believe the council find it is 'not their responsibility' to cater for out of school hours care. This attitude is uncaring and demonstrates that all they are interested in is fulfilling their legal responsibilities without genuinely looking out for the best interests of our children.

Given that other schools such as Clifford and Ecclesall would like to expand, we can only think that the council is looking for the easiest and cheapest way forward for them, rather than the one that is best for the children of Sheffield in the longer term.

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I see again the argument that SCC could not provide more information or detailed feasibility studies due to cost and accusations that it was a done deal.

This does not reassure me in the slightest.

For my daughter who will start school at Dobcroft in 2015 it is absolutely a done deal. She will be starting school alongside 119 other 4 year olds: we have no other choice, given the timing of the announcement. Whilst outside the terms of the consultation as set, surely the need to adequately accommodate those 2015 children requires that all the same considerations be looked at and resolved in advance to the decision being made.

Or as parents are we just to accept that the experiences of our 2015 children are but a small price to pay for SCCs administrative convenience in allocating places for the whole south west area. The answer is yes, but I would like that in writing!

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Further information of the prime site I would expect an Infant/Primary school to be located before any increases to current schools are considered:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/business-economy/property-available/asset-enhancement-programme/abbeydale-bannerdale.html>

SCC build a few more houses, yet pay little attention to supplying the long overdue and much needed infrastructure to support these. I know of several large developments completed in the last 8 or so years in this area which I have little doubt have had some impact on school numbers. Ecclesall Road South – Two new large Apartment/Townhouse

developments. Abbey Lane, again 2 new similar developments. Developments in Brincliffe also.

Why are you not looking to amend the plans for this site over expanding other schools?

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Following on from our conversation at last weeks consultation meeting, I have listened to all arguments, digested the information made available and had time to reflect on my personal opinions.

I support the future expansion on the strict proviso that the school are given adequate funding to build a suitable environment to support the existing excellent teaching standards.

I am, along with most of South West Sheffield bitterly disappointed about the enforcement for this year. This is regarding the affect on our community, further pressures placed on the woefully under funded school and staff. If the authority had acted earlier, further school places could/should have been arranged for all catchment and sibling children.

Moving on to a more positive note. We have found the school to be everything we hoped and fought for. The children are very well supported, and the fact that the school is not given adequate extra funding to support the more vulnerable children, yet still nurtures happy, secure children with excellent outcomes is a credit to them. If I were being cynical, I would class this as one of the reasons Dobcroft has been chosen.

Despite the buildings requiring a lot of work and continued repair, the staff are so dedicated. I know that whatever is thrown at them, their team will work as hard as ever to provide the best learning environment that they can. I don't think many parents are aware of the poorer standards of teaching and support in other schools.

Millhouses is an insular, highly populated middle class residential area. We are very lucky to live in such a nice area. I feel that it is easy for some of the parents on high incomes who live in expensive houses to feel it is their child's Devine right to be schooled at Dobcroft.

Whilst it is fair to offer a school place for a child at her nearest school, it is completely morally wrong to 'buy' your child a state school place solely based on income. How can this be fair?

The inner socialist in me argues that a more varied mix of social class/backgrounds would be more 'healthy' mix of pupils. Imagine the rich environment that would create!? (An argument for another day, perhaps).

I currently have concerns about the some of the Governors following their code of practice. On several occasions I have overheard shocking conversations in which they are only looking after 'their own' or their individual family members and friends.

**Selflessness** - Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

**Undertaking:**

As a member of the Governing Body I will always have the well-being of the children and the reputation of the school at heart; I will do all I can to be an ambassador for the school, publicly supporting its aims, values and ethos; I will never say or do anything publicly that would embarrass the school, the Governing Body, the Headteacher or staff.

In summary, I am in favour of the long term expansion but ONLY if the school is given adequate financial support.

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I would like to express my formal objection to the expansion of Dobcroft Infant school. The school manages its already large pupil population very well at present but I think further expansion would stretch the school to breaking point. The site is not big enough, there will be access problems and frankly I believe 360 children is too large for an infant school.

I hope the almost unanimous disapproval of this plan from the existing parents will be heard and listened to,

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It is absolutely appalling that the council have taken the decision, without consultation with anyone affected, to create an extra 30 places for the September 2015 intake at Dobcroft Infant School.

As a prospective parent at the school for this year, why would I want my daughter to be 1 of 120 pupils when 1 of 90 is already more than enough, given the already limited and overcrowded facilities at the school? Why would I want her to be sharing a classroom with children from outside of catchment that may not have a very good command of the English language (especially if the children come from the Holt House/Carterknowle areas of the city as we know they are likely to, who are likely to change their school preferences now that there are extra places available - due to the current standard of their schools)? And even if the 2016 plan does not go ahead, why would I want her to be part of a 'temporary 120 intake year' throughout her primary school life?

It is clear that there is absolutely no need within the catchment area to expand Dobcroft School, either for the 2015 intake or beyond, and that the council should be taking a longer term view and expanding Ecclesall Infants to a 90 intake (where there is space to do so) and making Clifford Infants a through primary.

As local residents to the school, we pay a premium because the school is of a high standard - and making these changes will inevitably affect the quality of education and the school as a whole. Not only will this devalue our house, but the extra traffic and pollution caused by all those extra cars will also contribute negatively to the quality and safety of our family life and the school children's, as well as the desirability of our home.

I am absolutely against Sheffield City Council's proposal for all of the reasons above.

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Many thanks for your reply.

However, your email does not address my concerns over the overcrowding at the school. How do you plan to address this, as this is absolutely critical. And where are you proposing to 'house' an extra 30 children per year? How much money will be spent on the school to ensure that standards and facilities are met and indeed exceeded as they have done in the past?

Traffic is a concern, but my main concern is around the welfare of my own child, and her very important primary school experience. It seems that this decision regarding 2015 has been taken with no consideration for the children themselves, which is in itself deplorable and inexcusable. It makes me very concerned about putting my children's education in the hands of a council that believes that it is acceptable to take these sorts of decisions at the very last minute, and without any consultation or in-depth consideration for the children affected.

Surely it would have been far more sensible to house the extra children at Ecclesall Infants (where there is need within the catchment as well as the space to extend), and look at extending Clifford to a through primary using the building next door? Why is this not being done instead?

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We are writing to you to express our concerns in relation to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant School for the intake this September 2015.

We moved into Dobcroft catchment area in 2011. We decided to make this move to fulfil our desire for our children to attend Dobcroft schools, both which have an excellent reputation and outstanding Ofsted grading.

Our concern this year was that our daughter, who is due to go to the school in September, may not have got a place due to more children in catchment than places available. Our initial thoughts on hearing about an extra class being added, were that this was to ensure all catchment children received a place.

However as details have emerged it has become clear that there are only 84 children in catchment and 90 places available.

It has been explained that an extra class will be added to Dobcroft this year to compensate for the over subscription at Ecclesall, Totley and Dore schools.

We would like to express our dismay that the perceived answer to this is to create the extra class at Dobcroft. For many reasons.

1. Increase traffic flow/parking in area
2. lack of space at DIS - the proposed extra classroom will take the place of the library which will be moved into the computer room, lack of cloakroom space, extra PE/games classes required and available time and space in school hall all reducing resources and space available to children.
3. Where will the children come from who take these places? Will their siblings have priority in subsequent years for places over first children in catchment area homes as is the order of priority now?
4. In previous years reasons have been cited in response to appeals from those whose children did not get a place in the school for the school being unable to take 1 pupil over the 90 places i.e. safety, toilets etc however now the school is equipped to take an extra 30 children with no increase in resources and or space????
5. Ecclesall Infant and Clifford actually want to increase. Surely we should work with those that want and would benefit from the changes. Once you are in the car to travel to a school out of catchment you may as well travel an extra couple of miles to a school that can accommodate your child, rather than being stuffed in like hens in a battery farm and where their education will not be at risk.

We would strongly ask that this proposal be reconsidered.

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As a concerned parent living in the Ecclesall area, I am emailing in relation to the current consultation on creating school places in South West Sheffield.

From my own point of view I have a child due to start reception in 2016 and live in catchment for Ecclesall Infants. I have no other children. I have been concerned for some time about the availability of a local school place for my child. If he does not get a place at Ecclesall, the

next nearest school, Greystones is unlikely to be able to accommodate him. We live too far from Dobcroft to be able to benefit from the proposed expansion and too far from Hunters Bar to have any chance of gaining a place. I am a non-driver with the main responsibility for getting my son to school as my husband's work hours will not allow him to help. If we can't get a place at one of these schools, the travel/walking involved would have a very negative impact on my son and family life. Yet this looks like an increasingly real prospect for us.

Our own situation aside, it is terrible that so many families will not be able to have their children attend their catchment school. It is effectively telling these children and their families that they are excluded from their local community. It is tremendously unfair to do this to a four year old who has simply had the misfortune living a few metres further from the local school than someone else. One look at our local Toddler Group over the last 3-4 years clearly indicated this problem and I am amazed the Council is only just talking about what to do about it now.

I support the idea of expanding Ecclesall Infants and building a new Junior section for Clifford. Not least because we are eventually going to have the ridiculous situation where children from other parts of the city are attending Ecclesall Juniors from Clifford when local children are excluded from attending.

All the majority of parents want is for their children to attend the local school. The Council should be doing what they can to make this happen.

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I wanted to express my utter disappointment in the short length of time provided for Consultation on the plans to extend Dobcroft Schools both in the short and long term.

As a fair minded and reasonable person, I find the Consultation period provided to be unreasonably short. Parents and residents have not been given reasonable time to gather information and make an informed response which therefore renders the consultation meaningless. In addition, it has been run at a time when incidences of flu and ill health are at their highest, so parents are either poorly themselves or are concentrating on helping their young children or elderly parents and neighbours. Furthermore the snow over the past few weeks has in itself further hindered parents.

The Council is good at running reasonable length consultation periods when carrying out restructures within the Council itself. Why then has the same level of reasonableness not been afforded to parents and members of the community, and indeed our children, who are unable to speak for themselves.

Please also consider how much time parents have spent since their children were born, planning and saving to help their children go to Dobcroft School. My time, energy and saving appears to mean very little when compared to the inadequate length of consultation period set. I, as such, feel undervalued as Parent and a Resident, in a City I love and am very passionate about.

I would ask you to extend the period of consultation in order to render it meaningful.

Please can you ensure the above is formally noted.

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I am writing to you to put forward my view on the proposed expansion. I am totally against this proposal, I went to Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools from 1986-1992. Back then this school was neglected for reasons unknown, but I assume it was because of the area it was in. The schools still have the same gym equipment, doors and most of the windows when I attended. My eldest daughter started in 2011. When she went to the junior school and I had the chance to look round, I was horrified to find that the school

had to remove the children's changing rooms to make way for an ICT suite. So the children now have to change in the class room in front of each other. This is not acceptable. The point I am trying to make, well or not, is that Dobcroft Schools are already under extreme financial pressure to provide for their pupils, and what else will the schools have to sacrifice to make room for more children?

What will our children have to sacrifice to make way for more children? who are not from the area! What about the added pressure in parking for parents who have to drive a car to pick children up, what about the residents in the area that will get even more upset with the parking situation, as more cars descend on the area? Don't say that it won't become a problem, as the children will be traveling from out of area.

We as parents already pay through the nose on school trips and extra in school activities. Every 2 weeks, at least, we receive letters with some fundraising efforts for the school or letters asking for 'Voluntary' contributions which in fact turn out to be compulsory other wise the children will miss out.

I am tired of the council deciding on spending money on schools in deprived areas, who don't treat the buildings with respect, that's why Dobcroft schools are shabby and school funds are having to pay for building repairs for a school which quite frankly should have been bulldozed a long time ago.

To add this pressure on the school will be a burden to far, and our children will suffer.

I ask you don't go ahead with this proposal of expansion.

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I am a mum of two. My son is in Clifford's Y2 class and my daughter is due to start school in September. I have visited the consultation at the junior school and have read through the consultation documents. I have a number of concerns.

Councillor Jackie Drayton rightly said at the consultation that the cabinet will base their decisions on the figures presented to them. This is the right thing to do. Perhaps despite appearances, I actually think highly of her as a councillor. My biggest concern in this whole consultation is that the figures being presented are deeply misleading.

At a meeting with school head teachers and governors back in November (during which, I believe, it was initially made clear to them that the was an issue with places that needed to be addressed) the following numbers of children living in catchment were given:

<i>School</i>	<i>Places Available</i>	<i>Children in Catchment for Sept 2015</i>	<i>Number of catchment children who will not be offered a place</i>
<i>Ecclesall Infants</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Greystones</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Sharrow</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Lowfields</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Holt House</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>34</i>
<i>Nether Edge</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Hunters Bar</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>74</i>	
<i>Dobcroft</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>76</i>	

*St Wilfrids and Clifford School are in the same area and do not have specific catchments. Clifford takes 30 children and St Wilfrid's 45, not all of these children are from SW Sheffield as these schools have no catchment.*

These figures are actually very similar to those quoted in the Dobcroft consultation document. However, the document frustrates me by excluding a number of schools. Sharrow, Lowfields, Nether Edge and Hunter's Bar are all excluded from the document. Furthermore, all of these except Hunter's Bar have a greater number of children living in catchment than they have spaces for. Porter Croft are also excluded from the figures and, having emailed their head teacher, I know they are also currently oversubscribed.

I do understand that there is an argument that some of these children will have the ability and means to choose to go to a school not in catchment or to a private school. Parents have an element of choice. However, Sharrow has the highest number of children living in catchment who potentially will not get a catchment place. The economics of the area mean that it is unlikely that the vast majority of parents will be applying for private education and they are unlikely to be helped by the Dobcroft expansion. I'd like reassurance that the council is both aware of this and has plans to address this.

The second lot of figures that I find concerning are those given to a friend who has her eldest starting school in September. She wanted clarification of numbers in order to help her make an informed choice for primary school options. John Bigley sent her the following:

"In terms of the wider area, the table below shows the pupil Admission Number of each school and the expected demand for places from catchment residents for the relevant school. These figures relate to the September 2015 Reception intake.

Dobcroft I (90)	65
Ecclesall I (60)	70
Greystones IJ (90)	79
Holt House I (60)	59
Hunters Bar I (90)	46
Lowfield IJ (60)	36
Sharrow NIJ (60)	39
The Nether Edge NIJ (60)	33"

These 'expected demand' figures differ greatly from the number of children in catchment. I do find it a little difficult to stomach 'expected demand' figures from an administration that was seemingly unable to predict that this coming September's intake needed more places before November. Would it not have been more honest to send her the catchment figures? As it stands, she was put in an impossible situation. She read the consultation document and couldn't work out how these new figures affected her. As a mum with her first child due to start school in September, these deeply unclear statistics have made her attempts at filling in her admissions form all the more stressful. The whole process must be

made clearer. Parents don't know where they stand. It was only by attending the consultation that I was assured that the Dobcroft catchment was not changing - vital information which my friend needed and did not have.

I believe the proposed Dobcroft expansion is being rushed through. No plans have been drawn up or are available to look at. When I asked if playground, library or non-classroom work spaces were to be lost, this couldn't be confirmed or denied. The one-class increase taking place from next year has already had an impact on DASH (Dobcroft After School Hours). At the same time, the possible expansion of Clifford and Ecclesall was derided at the consultation for its lack of figures and detail. This is deeply unfair. If the proposal is to lose non classroom work spaces or playground spaces it is the council's responsibility to be honest about that now. It has a deep negative impact on children's education when this happens. The playground shrinkages that we have seen at a number of schools including Greystones do not demonstrate effective school planning. Dobcroft has already been squeezed by having 'temporary' classrooms on its playground which, I believe, have been there a decade. It feels as if the council will say 'there are no definite plans' until the cabinet has agreed on the expansion, after which no further consultation is required.

At the same time, the Clifford/Ecclesall proposal has not been properly investigated. Increasing Clifford to a through primary and increasing Ecclesall Infants by one form entry has the backing of both head teachers. There are a number of possible ways to do this: a mezzanine above Y1, the empty building next door and the empty PRU building opposite are all possible Clifford options. This will need financial and practical consideration. However, as I am repeatedly told there are no firm financial or practical plans for Dobcroft, I fail to see why this option is being given more credence. Likewise, there are a number of possible viable options mentioned in the council's own consultation document. I find phrases such as 'does not share the central position of Dobcroft', 'the pressure in the catchment area is not as clear or sustained', or even dismissing the possibility of mixed-age classes (especially given outstanding schools such as Nether Edge, who manage this brilliantly) unjustifiable in the light of such selective figures.

Finally, I would like to know which families did and did not receive the letter about the class increase at Dobcroft. It has not been given to all families with children starting school in September and neither does it appear to have been given to everyone living within a certain distance of Dobcroft. This question was raised at the consultation by myself and a friend. I received the letter; she did not. Other friends who live closer to Dobcroft did. We don't understand this. We were promised someone would get back to us with the answer.

I do believe there are a number of people at the consultation who have the best interests of children in south west Sheffield at heart. However, the consultation document in its current form does not present the facts accurately. It is extremely selective and, if this is what the cabinet is basing their decisions on, they may well reach the wrong conclusion.

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I understand there is currently a proposal to extend class room space at Dobcroft Junior School. As a local resident who lives on Whirlowdale Crescent, very close to the main entrance to the school I feel very strongly about this. There is currently a lot of pressure put on local residents by traffic from parents and I do not feel an increase in the number of pchildren, parents and cars is in the best interest of the local people who are by and large very understanding.

Please could you inform me how I can formally comment on this proposal. I also understand

there is to be a public meeting regarding this, I would appreciate some more information on how to attend this.

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It is a great shame that your letter dated 16 January 2015 did not reach me until 29 January 2015, so I have not been able to attend the drop in sessions which you advised were being held on 26 -28 January 2015.

I have therefore been denied an opportunity to understand and discuss the developments that you are planning.

My questions are as follows:-

1 At what stage do you plan to undertake a traffic management study, which will need to address both the temporary situation during construction and the long term increase in traffic which is a likely consequence of more school places.

2 Will you please forward a hard copy of the information already available following your meetings with the governing body of the school.

3 What incentives or conditions will you place to discourage the use of private transport associated with the additional numbers of school places?

4 In association with point 3 above what are the proposals for ensuring that a comprehensive environmental impact assessment is undertaken?

As I presently live within 100 metres of both entrances to the school I am concerned that increased traffic congestion , in the morning and afternoon peaks ,on Dobcroft Road will lead to the bus companies withdrawing their services which will be a distinct disadvantage to the local area.

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I am writing to express my grave reservations regarding the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools. I am a local resident, living adjacent to the school on Dobcroft Road, and the father of two pupils currently in year two and foundation at the infant school. My concerns include:

- **The physical constraints of the site, particularly the infant school.** The site is already cramped for 270 pupils, with all of the outdoor play areas full to capacity at break times. An additional 90 pupils will make this situation worse, particularly as play areas will have to be lost to accommodate further classroom space. There are already two "temporary" classrooms on site, as the original scope of the building and plot has been exceeded. The junior school site, although larger, would lose either some of its playing field (essential if a total of 840 pupils are to be offered use of an outdoor area for sports' days and physical education) or hard playground, whilst catering to an additional 120 pupils day-to-day.
- **The loss of non-classroom learning space.** It is disturbing that the council has decided to add an extra class in September 2015 without consultation. This additional class will result in loss of the school library, a vital space for learning. Subsequent expansion of numbers will further reduce non-classroom indoor space, and make the school hall even less adequate for the numbers of pupils there.
- **Inadequate indoor facilities** The logistical challenge of seating the existing pupils for lunch is already very difficult; the hall is inadequate in size to accommodate any more. Christmas plays and other events are done by year group, and these already leave only standing room when the parents, grandparents and carers of 90 children attend. There are not enough toilet facilities at the moment, a point raised by the

headteacher in a communication to the council. It may be possible to build more, but only at the cost of indoor or outdoor space as above. During recent icy weather it was not possible for the children to play outside; this resulted in all of the foundation year group (91 children at present) watching one television screen during break. How will 360 children safely have an indoor play time during inclement weather under the new proposals?

- **Pressure on the local area** As a local resident and a parent, I daily see the effects of school traffic on Dobcroft Road, Pingle Road, Whirlowdale Crescent and Millhouses Lane. I cannot see how the additional traffic associated with bringing in a further 210 pupils to the two schools can be safely accommodated.
- **The rationale for expanding Dobcroft** The reasons cited by the council for expanding Dobcroft, as opposed to other local schools, include the projected numbers of children in catchment. However, the councils own figures demonstrate that Dobcroft does not have a particular problem in this regard, over and above other surrounding schools. It does not make sense to overload one central school with 120 children per year, whilst leaving surrounding schools with only 60 or fewer pupils per year. Why should Dobcroft pupils be the ones to suffer from such overcrowding? There are campaigns underway from parents of children in both Clifford and Ecclesall Schools to expand capacity in their schools, whilst I have heard only opposition to the expansion of Dobcroft from its parental body and governors. Dobcroft Infants was described by the council as being a popular and successful school, which it is. I am very concerned that cramming more pupils into it will damage that success and reputation for excellence in education.

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For the attention of Sheffield School Reorganisation Team,

I wish to object to the decision to expand Dobcroft Infant School to a 120 Pupil Admission Number from September 2015, in the absence of any dialogue or consultation with the Parents / Carers or the wider School Community.

I have outlined my concerns in the attached letter and base my objections on concerns as a Grandparent of children at the school and as someone passionate about the quality of early years education:

To expand the Pupil Admission Number at Dobcroft Infant School to 120 from September 2015 is certainly not in the best interests of young children.

As a City once at the forefront of exemplary practice in Early Years Education, Sheffield now seemingly lacks the crucial consultation and genuine debate between Officers looking to place on numbers alone and Officers who need to be more proactive as Advocates for ensuring appropriate quality learning and teaching environments.

How can such a disparity arise where the School is already successful in many areas? It is utilising space to a maximum in providing a very good education, achieving good results and working well with Parents / Carers and the School Community. By going ahead with the proposed additional numbers it will lead to overcrowding, and question the viability of continued success in all the crucial areas mentioned, as well as putting pressure on relationships with families and the wider School Community.

Some existing spaces that are conducive to learning experiences would be subject to re-modelling, taking them away from use for existing children. Much more consideration should be given to how overwhelming such large numbers are to the very young and to what degree a lack of appropriate space has a negative impact. It is certainly not about how many chairs and tables can be squeezed in!



I am concerned about the decision taken by Sheffield City Council, both as a Grandparent of children attending Dobcroft and also as an Advocate for Quality in Early Years. As a retired Sheffield Nursery School Headteacher, my view is that all children need to be facilitated as lifelong learners through an appropriate learning environment as integral to their Curriculum. Adequate space to explore and learn through structured play, whilst developing increased confidence, is key to maximising educational attainment. How then is such overcrowding seen be conducive to current children attending or the new cohort?

Overcrowding creates potential "obstacles" to a happy and thriving learning environment that may also impact on children with additional and specific needs, in terms of the loss of any quieter areas and overwhelming numbers of children sharing very limited space. A space in which to support children working with other Professionals is always an important factor.

Officers recommending this action towards resolving a crisis in places should be urged to re-think the issues around Quality for all children and not purely on 'Affordability'!

Birth rate figures and trends have been available in time for better planning options to be consulted upon and discussed with the rigour deserved. So, why the late urgency to create these places with no consultation? The Council's own figures suggest that other local Schools have a greater capacity to expand in order to offer places to children in their catchment. There is significant support for this option which explores better long term solutions, without the overcrowding that Dobcroft would endure.

It's surely no surprise that there are significant objections to the Council having a right to implement these changes in 2015 without consultation or due care about the impact on children. Children only have one chance of experiencing a quality School environment to support their learning. An increase in number in a building with very limited space indoors and outdoors is not the solution for any of the Council's objectives.

Whilst the City Council has legal obligations to provide places in a complex framework and the powers to implement decisions, informed debate and better communication is crucial. Being able to impose changes to practice doesn't necessarily mean that it is the most appropriate route to ensure maintaining and continuously striving to improve on the quality of education. Offering children the best learning environment possible, is surely the most important goal. This would surely be best achieved by forward planning long term solutions instead of more temporary measures that risk a negative impact on the children and School Community!

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I wish to object to the proposed plans to expand Dobcroft infant and Junior school.

As a parent of children in Dobcroft and a local resident it has raised many concerns.

Dobcroft is an excellent school but is already struggling for space. By losing the library this will have a major impact on the children's learning. The library and IT suite are extremely small areas and I can not see how you could possibly allow a class of 30 to occupy this area as a classroom.

The children would be learning in extremely cramped conditions and this would have an impact on learning.

The dining room, school playground can not accommodate an extra 90 children. Also the school has excellent after school clubs and Dash, these currently have limited places, and do not have the space to accommodate extra children.

As a resident of the area I can only see this having a major impact on local parking and the flow of traffic during school drop off & pick up times. Parking is very limited on Whirlowdale Crescent, which is also used as a short cut for a lot of commuters. As the majority of extra places will be taken by pupils outside the catchment area, I can not see how the immediate area surrounding the school will cope with potentially an extra 30 cars. In time this will increase to 90 cars, the area could not cope with this. With cars parked on either side of

Whirlowdale crescent and Pingle road, the roads become single lane causing traffic to back up on the surrounding areas.

I have to travel to school three times a week by car and currently have to get there at eight thirty to be able to park safely. Whirlowdale crescent, pingle road , Dobcroft road and Millhouses lane are used as parking for Dobcroft and St Wilfred's. Any extra cars would cause a massive safety risk for the children.

I feel very angry that the school, parents and local residents have not been consulted on the proposed expansion.

Other schools in the area are wanting to expand and have the space to expand. Surely, this is the only solution that can be taken to accommodate the demand for places in the area.

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We understand from your "Newsletter" that the first step is a decision making process in principle by Sheffield City Council Cabinet which will consider comments from this consultation process. The second step is to progress to a planning application. We are concerned that any decision on the matter in principle will be pre-emptive on the ultimate outcome. We request information on what alternatives have been considered before deciding that provision of more local primary school places at Dobcroft Infant School and Dobcroft Junior School is the only option provided at this consultation stage. Why has it been decided that expanding the Dobcroft schools is the only option?

Has the former Abbeydale Grange School site which is vacant land been considered to develop a purpose built new school that would create the extra school places needed for the area?

#### **EDUCATION**

If the proposals go ahead will the standard number of the school be increased to 120? Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools already form a large primary. It is difficult to understand how the social, emotional and educational needs of young children will be met in an even larger school.

With an additional 210 pupils this will create a school that is the size of some secondary schools on a site not intended for that purpose.

Since the site of the school cannot be extended the addition of extra classrooms decreases the amount of outside space for play and games whilst increasing the number of pupils using that space.

Your newsletter only states that extra funding will be available for staffing. The school budget will have to support the extra facilities and increased running costs of a school with an additional 210 pupils. This will have a significant impact on staff and pupils.

If funding for extra staffing is based on a class number of thirty what happens if that number is not reached. Will this create a shortfall in funding that will result in larger class sizes for existing pupils.

#### **TRAFFIC**

We understand that it is your intention to consider matters such as traffic and road congestion at the planning application stage. However, traffic problems are of such importance in the locality of

the Dobcroft Schools that they form a crucial part of the decision making process and should be considered at the outset. As a resident living on Whirlowdale Crescent between Pingle Road and Dobcroft Road, we would raise the following traffic related problems:

#### **Congestion and highway/junction capacity**

We would point out that there are there are severe traffic capacity problems at the following three junctions:

- Whirlowdale Crescent – Dobcroft Road
- Whirlowdale Crescent – Pingle Road
- Whirlowdale Crescent – Millhouses

At times when people take and collect children to and from the schools, there is severe traffic congestion at these three junctions This is compounded by the presence of St Wilfrid Primary School located on Millhouses Lane and Mylnhurst School also on Millhouses Lane. When cars are parked on both sides of the road (mostly cars belonging to people

dropping/picking up children attending Dobcroft Schools) there is only enough space for one vehicle to travel along Whirlowdale Crescent and the upper part of Pingle Road. Traffic can only travel in one direction at any one time and two way traffic is not a possibility. The highway/junction capacity and operation is at present inadequate at these times. With additional traffic resulting from the proposed additional places at the Dobcroft Schools extensions it is clear that the situation will worsen.

#### **Safety**

Because of the inadequate highway and junction capacity, vehicles park partially on the footway making conditions for pedestrians, particularly those with push chairs and disabled people using wheelchairs, difficult and unsafe. A serious safety concern is that access for emergency services vehicles to residents houses and the schools is difficult or even impossible because of congestion at school times. Additional places at the Dobcroft Schools will undoubtedly worsen the situation.

#### **Environment**

We are concerned that the reduction in air quality as a result of increased traffic and increased congestion will be detrimental to the health of pedestrians and people living in the area affected.

Could the Council please advise whether there has been any consideration of air quality issues?

#### **Conclusion**

In consideration of the above comments, we object to the proposals to provide more local primary school places at Dobcroft Infant School and Dobcroft Junior School.

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We wish to raise our concerns and objections to the proposed increase in school places at Dobcroft school from September 2016. We live on Millhouses Lane & have watched over the years the massive increase in traffic at school times. There is constant horn blowing, leading to regular driver & pedestrian agitation. The roads surrounding Dobcroft school are already gridlocked every school day. We understand the places are being created for children living outside the existing catchment area, surely resulting in even more traffic and traffic pollution. The whole point of going to a local school is that you live locally and have the option to walk to your school, by allocating spaces to children outside the area this will not be an option for many.

The grass verges on the roads surrounding the school are destroyed due to cars mounting the grassy area beyond the kerb stones resulting in double parked roads. The traffic problem is compounded by St Wilfrid's school located around the corner from one of Dobcrofts entrances (Whirlowdale Crescent). Cars are parked up to the edge of Whirlowdale Crescent and Millhouses Lane, resulting in complete obstruction and visibility. It is an accident waiting to happen & God forbid that an emergency service needed swift access to a local accident.

We urge Sheffield City Council to look at alternative schooling arrangements & leave this already over-populated area as it is.

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I am writing to formally object to the proposals for both the expansion of Dobcroft Infant School by 1 class in 2015 and also to the proposed permanent expansion from 2016.

I believe this proposal will have an extremely negative impact on the school, the pupils and the surrounding area in many ways.

1. The school is already a 90 year intake, more than the majority of infant schools in the area. To increase this to 120 will make an already large intake feel extremely overwhelming to the very young children entering into the school especially at a time which is an extremely big step for most 4 year olds emotionally and mentally. This initial introduction to a school environment paves the way for a child's education and development and I believe this would be severely compromised should this increase go ahead.

2. Overcrowding

- the school is already an overcrowded school which only just manages to accommodate the current number of children safely. The children already have less time both at PE and ICT on a weekly basis than the majority of schools and indeed than the recommended amount. This is due to limited central facilities to be shared amongst the current years. This pressure would only be increased. This also follows though to the playground area which is far too small to accommodate even another 30 children let alone another 90. I am extremely nervous that this could cause a real risk of serious accident to the children and also compromise the amount of playtime and fresh air the children can have which is essential to be able to learn effectively.

3. Disruption to the school with building work

- the current school is a not fit for purpose school to safely and effectively manage any further children so more suitable facilities and classrooms would be required. This will cause significant noise, disruption and a dangerous building site environment continuously each year. This is not a suitable environment for children to learn and play safely.

4. Increase in traffic

- there is already a significant number of cars at drop off and pick up time causing issues for residents and for children. Whilst I appreciate this is a common issue at schools, increasing the school size to above average would make this a really high risk issue

5. Lack of consideration for more suitable schools for expansion

- has Dobcroft been chosen purely for cost reasons over other local schools such as Dore or Ecclesall? This appears to be the case rather than actually assessing the real impact and actually fairly considering more appropriate alternatives

There are many other issues which need to be discussed and reviewed I believe the lack of consultation over the proposed increase in intake in 2015 shows a panic response to a proper lack of planning rather than a properly managed process and a real lack of care for Sheffield residents.

Please take all mine and I'm sure other extremely concerned parents views into consideration and take this email as formal objection to both proposals.

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I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the proposed plans to permanently increase the pupil intake for Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools.

I am a local parent with children at both schools and with another child yet to enter school. I therefore have experience of both schools as they currently operate and an interest in future plans for the schools.

Dobcroft schools are great although already take far more pupils than they were originally designed to hold. This creates problems with lack of cloakroom space, inadequate toilet facilities, dining space and classes already housed in mobile classrooms in the playground. Congestion on the surrounding roads and pavements from parked vehicles is also a cause of frustration and safety concern. Any increase in pupil numbers will exacerbate these problems. The schools work tirelessly with children to organise performances, special

assemblies and trips for each year group. Enabling parents to attend in the audience of such events is already difficult, with more children, if these activities had to stop, the benefits that children gain from these will be lost and parental engagement decrease with negative implications.

I also feel that increasing to a four form entry with 30 pupils in each class will result in too large a school, which will have a negative impact on the pupil well being and the nurturing ethos of the schools where staff and students feel valued. I fear this could lead to less effective communication and a situation where children are known and treated as individuals less. If morale and cohesion between families and the school fall a lack of community spirit that the children currently benefit from could follow.

A 120 year group just seems too big, would it not make more sense to increase pupil numbers at a school which currently takes less than 90 pupils? From the past data of demand for school places and the projected figure for the next five years I don't see that Dobcroft would be best placed to meet the need as it appears to me that Ecclesall School has more demand from children within its catchment area and the advantage of large school site, currently takes less children than Dobcroft and is located reasonable centrally.

In summary I am concerned that if the proposal to expand Dobcroft schools goes ahead, this transition would result in a lower quality educational experience, with fewer opportunities and resources stretched between more pupils in an environment which could be quite overwhelming and intimidating.

I hope my views will be considered

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I am writing to express my concerns at the proposed expansion of Dobcroft infant and junior schools.

I have children currently attending both these schools and I feel very aware of the impact the proposed expansion would have on current and future students. The schools are excellent but already very cramped with many children already being taught in temporary classrooms. There is already insufficient room for hanging coats, insufficient toilet facilities, and the children have to have their lunch in strict rotation in order to fit them all in the dinner hall (please note that the junior school dinner hall also doubles up as a classroom and has to be cleared daily for dual use). Children enjoy all attending school concerts and plays together in the hall and this would not be possible if numbers were increased.

I cannot imagine where the extra classes could be accommodated on the current sites. Any additional classrooms would surely mean the loss of extremely important facilities such as the library, forest school area, playing field or playground- all areas that are vital for the children's development and which have helped to foster the school's excellent reputation. I also believe that extensive building work would be detrimental to the current student's school experience in terms of noise, safety, and general disruption.

I am also concerned about the impact the proposed expansion would have on the local area. It would result in a large increase in cars (with more children attending and more coming from further away so less likely to walk to school), with increased concerns over traffic safety at the beginning and end of the school day.

I understand that the other suggestion of expanding both Clifford and Ecclesall schools has been relatively well received, and it is felt that this would cause much less disruption to the children at these schools.

I have serious concerns about the Dobcroft expansion and I know my views are shared with many other parents. In fact I have yet to speak to anyone who is in favour of this proposal, and feelings are generally strong on this matter.

Thank you for taking these concerns seriously and for considering other options.

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It is inconceivable how the council can consider expanding this school.

1. It is landlocked. Where is the scope or space to expand? As it stands there is not enough space for the children to play.
2. The buildings are archaic but still function.
3. Increasing capacity with little insight into impact, will have an effect on the pupils and teachers. Standards will fall. It is already stretched at the seams.
4. Other schools mentioned have capacity to expand, and I disagree that Dobcroft is the only one central enough.
5. Yet again, I like many others, believe that this is more a geo-political, economical move targeted at a school for gains other than that proposed.

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I felt I should write to express my concern over the planned increase to Dobcroft infant school.

My first point is that I was hoping to get my daughter into Dobcroft for the 2015 intake but was already concerned that 90 children in a year was too many. For 4 & 5 year olds the school would be a scary place. After visiting the school with the current numbers it feels cramped.

Because of this plan we have changed our preferences for our daughter.

My second concern is that the school will not be able to offer the same facilities for 120 children e.g. before & after school clubs.

My third concern is that all the extra 30 will be coming from outside the catchment area (as from the numbers I have seen there are less than 90 children in the catchment area). This will mean the traffic in the local area will be effected. Causing extra pollution and risk to children's safety with the extra cars.

My final concern is that this will not solve the problem you need to fix, you are assuming that preferences that parent's will choose will match your expansion plans.

I do understand that extra places need to be made available, but this current seem to be right option. It would seem that the increase demand warrants a new school or increasing a school that has an intake of 30 or 60 children.

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I am writing to formally object to the proposals for both the expansion of Dobcroft Infant School by 1 class in 2015 and also to the proposed permanent expansion from 2016.

I believe this proposal will have an extremely negative impact on the school, the pupils and the surrounding area in many ways.

1. The school is already a 90 year intake, more than the majority of infant schools in the area. To increase this to 120 will make an already large intake feel extremely overwhelming to the very young children entering into the school especially at a time which is an extremely big step for most 4 year olds emotionally and mentally. This initial introduction to a school environment paves the way for a child's education and development and I believe this would be severely compromised should this increase go ahead.

2. Overcrowding

- the school is already an overcrowded school which only just manages to accommodate

the current number of children safely. The children already have less time both at PE and ICT on a weekly basis than the majority of schools and indeed than the recommended amount. This is due to limited central facilities to be shared amongst the current years. This pressure would only be increased. This also follows though to the playground area which is far too small to accommodate even another 30 children let alone another 90. I am extremely nervous that this could cause a real risk of serious accident to the children and also compromise the amount of playtime and fresh air the children can have which is essential to be able to learn effectively.

3. Disruption to the school with building work

- the current school is a not fit for purpose school to safely and effectively manage any further children so more suitable facilities and classrooms would be required. This will cause significant noise, disruption and a dangerous building site environment continuously each year. This is not a suitable environment for children to learn and play safely.

4. Increase in traffic

- there is already a significant number of cars at drop off and pick up time causing issues for residents and for children. Whilst I appreciate this is a common issue at schools, increasing the school size to above average would make this a really high risk issue

5. Lack of consideration for more suitable schools for expansion

- has Dobcroft been chosen purely for cost reasons over other local schools such as Dore or Eccelsall? This appears to be the case rather than actually assessing the real impact and actually fairly considering more appropriate alternatives

There are many other issues which need to be discussed and reviewed

I believe the lack of consultation over the proposed increase in intake in 2015 shows a panic response to a proper lack of planning rather than a properly managed process and a real lack of care for Sheffield residents.

Please take all mine and I'm sure other extremely concerned parents views into consideration and take this email as formal objection to both proposals.

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I am writing to convey my grave concerns regarding the planned expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School. My son is a prospective pupil, due to start there in September. We moved into the catchment area 5 years ago so that he would be able to attend Dobcroft. Given that this year's expansion is apparently a 'done deal' as was communicated to parents at the recent consultation meeting, I wish I could now change our first choice, but our current circumstances don't allow us to travel further afield. I have signed the petition calling for the abandonment of these plans and I wish to state on record that I strongly object to them on the following grounds:

- Dobcroft is already a large school, operating in a cramped environment. There is no room for an additional 30 children. Just last year, Dobcroft were unable to accommodate children in catchment and their message was clear – we cannot fit even one more child in this school. What has changed?
- Where will the additional 30 children be put? What resources will be lost as a result?
- Other schools are more oversubscribed than Dobcroft, particularly Ecclesall Infants. Why is the additional class not being put there?

- Why are you 'advertising' Dobcroft to families who are not in the catchment area? How is this fair?
- The learning experience of the child is clearly very low on your agenda here. This move will have a negative impact on pupils and I am concerned that attainment will suffer.
- The emotional needs of the children are also being ignored – how will this year's young intake cope in such a chaotic and busy environment? Quieter children will surely be overwhelmed by the sheer size of this 'super-school'. What additional support will be provided for them?
- Why haven't you consulted on the plans to increase Dobcroft this year? Why is the consultation period for permanent expansion so short? Clearly you are attempting to push this through and minimise any opposition, which is neither fair nor democratic.

I could ask additional questions such as 'why did you not start planning for this when you were first aware of the need to place extra children' but there wouldn't be any point, we are where we are. However, I am quite frankly appalled that the council's lack of foresight and judgement will potentially be to the detriment of my son's education and emotional wellbeing.

Please address my questions and concerns with full and frank responses asap.

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Thank you for your response, which I find inadequate for a number of reasons.

Firstly, you describe this year's increase as temporary, and therefore not eligible for consultation. Do you understand that this is not a temporary increase for the children in that year group? Those extra children won't simply disappear after a year. This is a permanent change that will affect them throughout their early academic career. Worse still, the very fact that it is a 'temporary' arrangement, may lead the school to avoid ever putting permanent measures in place to support that year group.

Your Q&A document, and the cut and paste job you sent me below, fails to address the most important issue - the impact on the children. You state that an increase such as this has been made elsewhere with little impact on the school. Would the schools, children and parents in question agree with this generalisation? What evidence can you provide?

What attempts have been made to find an alternative to this year's increase? I demand to know why my son's year group is to suffer the effects of the council's shortsightedness. It is clear to me expanding Dobcroft is wholly unsuitable, even as a temporary solution. There is no good reason for it, no support for it and there is no room for it. The educational experience and attainment of the students will doubtless suffer if you continue to push these plans through, and I am certain that the next Ofsted report will show this to be the case.

It goes without saying that I strongly oppose the permanent increase at Dobcroft school from the next academic year. But I would also like answers regarding this year's expansion. In my view, as well as most other parents in the Dobcroft area, the council needs to take a step back and reconsider the plans for 2015-6. I do not accept your excuse that this change is



merely temporary and I refuse to allow my son's education to suffer as you attempt to put yet another 'patch' on this problem.

I await your satisfactory response.

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If you have ever tried to drive down Millhouses Lane or Dobcroft Road or have ventured along Whirlowdale Crescent between 8.40 and 9.10 a.m. and between 3.15 and 3.50 p.m. every school day you will be aware of the traffic gridlock and ensuing chaos. Parents driving their children to school are already creating a dangerous situation twice every day and they are causing hazards for the children who are allowed to walk to school. These roads are really dangerous already for pedestrians and the prospect of 30 more cars is plainly ridiculous.

The proposed expansion of 30 more cars each day (to start with) and maybe more to follow in subsequent years, leaves me dumbfounded. Plainly the councillors planning this expansion do not live locally – if they did they would never have suggested this expansion.

Apart from the danger to the children walking to school (I wish there were more walking instead of being driven there), there is increasing bad behaviour seen between parent drivers and other motorists who are trying to negotiate their way through the gridlocks on all our local roads. Even the local cul-de-sacs have cars parked on both sides of their narrow roads during school starting and finishing times. The situation has worsened since September noticeably so and the prospect of 30 more cars arriving every day fill me with despair.

Stop this expansion idea now. There must be other schools in the area that would be willing to offer more places and where lives of pedestrians would not be put into danger.

Yours sincerely,

Local resident – watching the chaos unfold every day and having to wait until the school traffic has gone in order to get out of my property safely.

P.S. Residents who have to back out of their drives are increasingly in danger of being hit by another car – they can't see what is coming because of all the adjacent parked cars.

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I have written previously expressing my concerns about the proposed Dobcroft expansion. I still have a lot of concerns, particularly about any building work etc being done correctly, however, following a meeting with governors today, it does appear from their figures that there will be more Dobcroft children in catchment not getting a place than I previously realised if the expansion does not go ahead.

I believe that children in catchment should be able to go to their local school if at all possible. Although I am aware that other schools have a greater problem than us, I do think that the expansion will at least mean that all our catchment children will get in and therefore I do support it for that reason.

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I have today (2nd February) received an important consultation letter dated 16 January on the above topic from David Metcalfe (School Organisation Project Officer).

By this late delivery I have been denied attending any of the four 'Drop-in' sessions all of which took place in January.

I STRONGLY OBJECT to what amounts to a device designed to prevent nearby residents asking questions and providing feedback at these Drop-in sessions. Further Drop-in sessions should be arranged and the consultation dead-line of 11th February extended to accommodate these sessions.

What is being proposed would have a great impact on the area in which I live.

I look forward to hearing that I and perhaps others living nearby will not be denied our democratic right to ask questions from Council Officers and to give our views.

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Your letter fails to address the fact that I missed the four drop-in meetings because of the late posting of your letter informing me of these meetings.

Your apology, acknowledging that I and others have been denied public access to Council Officers goes against your implied claim that the regulations in these matters have been followed

Sending an e-mail or letter in isolation is no substitute for taking part in question and answer sessions at public meetings.

If my original letter will be logged as feedback then it must be as a protest that I was not informed about the four public meetings with Council Officers.

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My wife and I would like to lend our weight to the concerns shared by many parents (and residents) affected by the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools from 2016 to permanently support 4 classes in each year group and formally object to the proposal.

We like others are concerned with the logistics of expansion and why the school has been proposed in the first place. We understand and support the fact that there is a need within SW Sheffield to provide additional provision for primary school education and hope that there is sufficient funding in place that these needs can be properly met.

We believe that the children's' education, sense of well being and feeling that they are an integral part of a community is at the heart of providing a quality experience in which to foster positive outcomes for all children. Our principal concern is the experience of the children at the school and the quality of the environment in which they will spend the formative years of their education.

It is our understanding that there is evidence to support the fact that children thrive better in smaller schools and that the SCC believe that it is both preferential and beneficial to maintain primary schools with 3 intake classes or less per year group. For this reason alone the proposal to expand DIS/DJS appears to be incongruous although we recognise that many factors have to be taken into account. We have not evidenced the SCCs work done to date in terms of alternative options and would welcome the opportunity to have these evidenced to better understand how the SCC has arrived at their decision to support this proposal. (We have read the available information on your website but do not feel that it is particularly exhaustive nor encompassing).

Whatever the result of the proposal the SCC needs to consider the long term provision for primary education and the provision of quality places for all where they are required. This is a view shared by our MP Nick Clegg. In our view and in line with a steadily increasing birth rate it would seem prudent to consider the possibilities of constructing new schools.

We feel that the current size and scale of the school must already be sufficiently daunting for the children, without the prospect of a third more children. This will more densely populate an already crowded site. Already we feel that there is a degree of segregation that has to necessarily exist within the school (to allow it to function with its existing resources and amenities) and that children do not already know children across their year group. This affect would be further exacerbated by an increase in intake numbers leading to the children recognising fewer and fewer of their peers. This leads in our view to children potentially feeling less a part of a community and more of a number. Some secondary schools are this size and I still recall how daunting the first few weeks / months of secondary school were at 11.

The way that the school is currently sited and being single storey means that it is less imposing than a similar school would be if it were more condensed (taking up a smaller or even less footprint than the existing school). Although this does make the school sprawl and limits the amount of external space available for outdoor activities (supporting of physical and social development), we feel that it is important as it humanises the scale of the school. Entering into an environment at the age of 4/5 that is so densely populated we believe can be very intimidating for children and potentially limiting their well-being, happiness and development.

Any proposal to physically increase the number of pupils on site would necessarily impact on either the provision of outside space or the scale of the existing buildings both of which would have a negative impact on the school and the children's experience of it. The strain on common amenities and resources would of course be evident and adversely affect the children.

The demands on the teaching staff, management and administration would obviously also be affected and would need to be adequately catered for but the increase in pupil numbers can only be detrimental to some of these resources again potentially resulting in reducing the quality of the provision of care.

The logistics of trying to implement the use of shared resources such as the Hall, Kitchen, Library, IT suite, playground, around-school care without increasing the number of each of these facilities is likely to lead to compromises having to be made and again resulting in a poorer experience of school. Having read the Junior schools governor's report this view certainly seems to be supported across both sites and there is a concern that if the proposal were to go ahead there are insufficient funds to ensure the quality of provision of education.

We believe that the proposal is ill-considered and that alternative options should be studied further. We also recognise that both Clifford and Ecclesall infants / juniors would welcome the possibilities afforded by expansion and believe that there is scope to do so on their existing sites another view mirror by our MP.

We have read and support the analysis undertaken by Iain Bradley and many of the conclusions that he draws.

We believe that the following issues will also significantly detrimentally impact on the school:  
Health and Safety Risk due to Increased Road Traffic/ Congestion / Pollution

- Compromises the quality of indoor amenities and outdoor spaces
- Health and safety risk in the playground and hall
- Lack of provision for nearby tertiary early learning provision (nursery places)
- Environmental impact

We also understand that there is a consultation planned which will affect catchment areas, the result of which will not be known prior to the Councils decision whether to proceed with the current proposed expansion.

Thank you for your consideration

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I would like to raise my objection to the proposed plans to increase capacity at Dobcroft Infants and Junior School.

The parking and vehicle access to the school and surrounding roads is already dangerously over loaded. On numerous occasions i have had to go into the school to find the car owner who has blocked my drive, stopping me leaving for work.

This picture was Wednesday 4th February stopping me entering my drive. This is by no means an isolated incident. Most days cars are parked on the yellow lines on the junction of Whirlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road. Parents also park for up to 40 minutes before the end of school, just to ensure a parking space within close proximity to the school.

I will be strongly objecting to any additional places at this school, as the school management have shown that they can not manage the current volume of traffic and parking, so it can only get worse for residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to let you know what i think.

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I am writing to express our concerns regarding the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Juniors Schools. As parents of two children attending foundation stage in the Infants and Y3 in the Junior school and as a resident of the local area living on Dobcroft Road - where parking at school times is already a problem.

Please see below a summary of my concerns:

Dobcroft already has the **largest annual intake of children in the area**. The teachers already have to work very hard to stop this feeling intimidating to children. The addition of an extra 30 children per year will make the school feel much bigger and more overwhelming to new and existing children alike.

There is insufficient shared space and considerable **pressure on already tired shared areas**.

- The ICT Suite – because of existing demand for these facilities the children are only able to have a short period of time allocated to ICT each week. More children in school will squeeze this available time even further
- Twice weekly PE sessions may be threatened if the already complex logistics of the Hall can't accommodate the additional classes, especially in winter.
- Areas like the Hall, Library, play facilities and toilets will suffer significantly greater wear and tear as the number of children increases.

**Lunchtimes will be even more busy and rushed.** If the school is forced to move to three sittings to accommodate the extra numbers then some children will either be forced to eat very early or very late.

After -School Clubs, DASH (which I currently use will be busier and where will this facility go to?) and activities such as School Disco's, School Plays and Sports Days will become overcrowded and potentially a logistical nightmare for those organising and supporting

New classrooms cannot be added without **removing outdoor space**. With more children attending, more outdoor space would be appropriate rather than less. Children need enough space to let off steam after periods of intensive classroom learning.

Any building work needed will undoubtedly bring with it **disruption and safety implications** for the children. Our Foundation Stage children will experience this at least three times as:

1. the building work to create the new library & ICT area takes place
2. the building work to create new classrooms for the additional children in 2016 and 2017 takes place in the Infants School
3. the building work takes place to the Junior School to accommodate the additional numbers, starting the first year our Foundation Stage children join the Junior School. (If the Junior School building work is phased in year by year then our Children will experience this every single year they are at Junior School!)

Road Safety Danger and Traffic Congestion: The vast majority of new children will be from outside our catchment area. This means there will be a **significant increase in road congestion and parking challenges** in the surrounding roads at drop off and pick up times. By 2020, when our foundation children are in their final year of Juniors, this will mean the potential for an additional 180 parking spaces being sought (and fought over) in the area. We've all witnessed some of the "parking" and "right of way" wars that take place every morning along Whirlowdale Crescent, Pingle Road and Dobcroft Road. This a major concern to me as I live on Dobcroft Road and the road is already double parked at school times, making it difficult/impossible to safely reverse off our driveway currently.

I write with regard to the proposal to increase the capacity of Dobcroft Infant and junior school, therefore increasing the volume of traffic.

I live at the end of Whirlowdale crescent, on the corner to Dobcroft road. Some years ago yellow lines were painted on the corners around the school entrance but none were put on the corners at the end of Whirlowdale crescent. Subsequently there is alot of congestion in this area already.

I have great difficulty reversing out of my drive as people park close to my drive and on the corners. This with the increased traffic at school times, it is becoming a nightmare and not at all safe.

I did request double yellow lines in this area and was told I could have a single yellow line at a cost to myself which I was disgusted with.

I would definitely oppose this proposal unless I had help with at least some double yellow lines to help me get in and out of my drive.

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I originally emailed you on the 20/1/15 outlining my concerns! Worryingly, to date I have not received an email back addressing this, why not?

In that email it gave you a link to an online petition that is currently live and actively attracting lots of support. The full petition and signature list with comments will be presented in full before the Cabinet meets in March! It would be useful if you could let me know ASAP if I need to submit the petition and support we have to date before the end of the consultation period 11/02/15? If so how?

To begin with I would like a response to my original email. However, following on from that I still feel there are many unanswered questions, which is unacceptable! I feel the Q&A document unhelpful and in its entirety doesn't answer any of the main concerns / worries.

I'm going to list direct questions to you in order to receive direct answers, something I feel is lacking from the consultation;

- My concerns lie with the lack of detailed information and genuine consultation, alongside the attitudes the 2015 intake will have to 'make do' and it's tough luck. These children have the same rights as the 2016 intake but are not being treated that way. With that in mind I want to specifically question the 2015 situation, although with no consultation being allowed it's difficult. I want to see the feasibility study for 2015.
- How are the health and safety implications of putting 30 children into an already crowded school being addressed? Please refer to the attached letter sent to a parent in 2014 as part of an appeal process. I would very much appreciate your comments on this document.
- In light of this how is the school going to comply with the BB103 guidelines in 2015?
- What provision is going to be put in place for 2015? It's happening in just over 6 months so I do not think the answer, "We are working with the school" is acceptable.
- The school has twice the national average of PLUS STAGE SEN (not SEN as the Q&A states) how will this be managed with a significant reduction in intervention space in 2015? This would be catastrophic for these children i.e loss of library, loss of ICT to accommodate the library books, less hall access due to extra demand for further PE lessons and staggered lunch entry.
- Why is there no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcroft so a carefully planned increase is appropriate, if that is what is necessary.
- Why was Dobcroft selected and not Greenhill, as this has a central location, gross site capacity and is a good school (which all seem to be the relevant criteria)?
- I would like space per pupil figures for all the schools in the 2 mile radius of Dobcroft? These should be available as part of the feasibility studies.

- I have asked on numerous occasions for a response from Jayne Ludlam, Interim Executive Director for children, young people and families. As an advocate for excellence in Early Years Education across Sheffield what is her view on a four form intake with limited provision? The children are being forgotten and the council's primary concern is traffic! It's interesting to note that some of those children starting in September are barely 4 years old and under the old system would still be accessing nursery provision in a much smaller / nurtured environment! I want to hear Jayne's response please!

- Children have to walk through classrooms to access outside, hall and ICT space. Coupled with potential building work this is incredibly disruptive, children cannot learn in an environment like that, how will this be addressed?

- Will this make Dobcroft Infants and Juniors the biggest school in South Yorkshire? Talking about them as separate schools is ridiculous, they are both accessed through the same gate!

- Why is the consultation so short? Can we have more time?

- The biggest issue from the school staff's point of view is the budget.. Why just over 2 million? Who decided on the budget? How was it worked out? Will it cover the expansion needed in such an underfunded building?

- If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for 2016? It has to be designed and go through planning before it even starts. If the proposal does not go through, exactly what is in place for the 30 displaced children of the 2015 cohort & their sibling priority for school places in future years?

I hope that you are able to answer my questions and I look forward to your response  
I can not stress enough how opposed I am to the expansion and how I feel that the people most affected by all of this have been forgotten.... OUR CHILDREN

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I am writing to object to the plans for adding an extra class of thirty children to the intake of September 2015.

Dobcroft school is already at absolute capacity if not in fact already suffering from over crowding. As a parent of two children currently attending the infant school and being a regular volunteer I have first hand experience of how the school works.

Whilst the library may be seen by the council as a luxury that can easily be disposed of I would like to point out that this space is absolutely vital for quiet learning, small group teaching and special needs children. This is not purely a lending library.

I have helped voluntarily in school for three years and have experienced the needs of foundation, Y1 and Y2. In every year there has been need for this space whether it's one to one reading with a child that struggles to concentrate in a classroom environment or helping small groups of high achievers so they don't get bored because the rest of the class can't keep up with them. There are many examples but perhaps most importantly it's the children with special needs who will suffer the most without this space.

There are also health and safety issues, for example there is a child in my child's class who despite having full time one to one supervision regularly throws things across the classroom.

I have witnessed this child throwing chairs and swiping the entire contents off a desk before. This child has to be physically restrained by 2-3 adults and is immediately removed from the classroom into the library to calm down. If the library is turned into a classroom where do the staff take children like this? It is certainly not acceptable to use the hard floor areas of the cloakroom or main hall, perhaps it will be in reception or even worse in the classroom. Has this even been considered?

There are many other reasons why I object which have been covered very thoroughly by other parents.

I find it very disappointing that Dobcroft is generally penalised because of its location and success. It is to the immense credit of the staff and management that the school is doing so well as the lack of funding is disgraceful. We as parents are having to finance basic repairs and improvements to an ageing and neglected building whilst in less affluent areas we hear of schools with amazing facilities and equipment because funding is thrown at them via pupil premium and because they are failing. Will the council not be satisfied until Dobcroft is dragged down to its knees?

I appreciate that school places are in crisis but evidence suggests that the need for extra places does not lie within Dobcroft catchment. Please put the extra places where there is a proven and long lasting requirement and don't ruin a great school with a short sighted and ill considered knee jerk decision.

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We are local residents living at the junction of Dobcroft Road and Silverdale Road and wish to lodge our objection to your proposal to permanently add another class to each year at Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools. We have no vested interest in the school per se as our children are past school age. From Reception to Year Six is seven more classes of thirty children each – a total of 210 extra children in the two schools eventually.

We wish to object on two grounds – traffic congestion outside our house and the fact that your own Q&A paper indicates that expansion is unnecessary anyway.

### **Traffic**

There are three means of access to the schools at present – via Whirlowdale Crescent and via each end of the footpath at the back of the school that runs between Dobcroft Rd and Millhouses Lane. Already the school run situation is inconsiderate to local residents and dangerous to children as literally hundreds of cars transport their children to and from Dobcroft Schools each day. Whirlowdale Crescent becomes totally gridlocked meaning more and more cars stop in the two areas around the end of the footpath. Parents start arriving with their cars up to thirty minutes before school times so as to get a parking space. The nearer it gets to school time the more parents arrive late and stop on the double yellow lines, white zigzag lines or park across residents' driveways while they wait to collect children.

At the junction of Dobcroft Rd and Silverdale Rd, cars parking on the double yellow lines and pavement outside the electricity sub-station is a regular occurrence. We have seen vehicles drive onto the grass verges and even onto the middle of the grass island at the road junction outside our house. We have directly experienced cars blocking our own driveway and driving onto the verge in front of us leaving tyre tracks and mud. We have never ever seen any police or traffic wardens attempt to control this chaos but have witnessed plenty of arguments and bad language as a result.



Very occasionally the school arranges for coaches to pick up and drop off children for school trips. The coaches park at the junction outside our house to do this and the chaos has to be seen to be believed.

Your consultation document makes no mention of the fact there is another school less than three hundred yards away on Millhouses Lane – St Wilfreds – where virtually every child is transported by car as the catchment area for this Catholic school is the whole city. That already brings many dozens more cars on to Millhouses Lane at the same time. It is literally impassable along Millhouses Lane and Whirlowdale Crescent at school drop off and pick up times already. We are concerned that if your proposal is approved then most of the extra traffic will come to the area outside our house.

To suggest that the area can sustain a development that would add 210 extra children to the schools – most of whom will be transported by car - is frankly impractical. For whatever reason, many parents drive their children to school rather than walk hence the current chaos will be exacerbated by your proposal. Very few children of primary school age seem to arrive by the number 83 bus.

In your consultation document you clearly argue that it is more economic to create extra capacity in one school rather than try and add smaller capacity at each of several schools. Dobcroft has presumably been selected because it is in the middle of the South West area therefore in relative terms it is the easiest for the most number of pupils to get to. However this is quite a big area. Springfield School catchment extends over four miles away so any children transported from that area will be brought by car. Your proposal therefore will inevitably result in greater congestion, traffic chaos and pollution (both noise and air) in the area around our houses.

### **Capacity**

Your own Q&A paper states that five schools in SW Sheffield have capacity already (40 spare places in 13/14). It also states that seven schools have more spaces than first choice requests (183 places). To an impartial observer that suggests the problem is that parents want to choose the 'outstanding' schools (Dobcroft, Ecclesall, Totley) even though they don't live near to them.

Obviously if a parent knows that there are spaces available in their local school and thus they are guaranteed to get in, there is no incentive at all to put that school as first choice – you know you can get it no matter what you put first or second. So obviously those parents will put perceived 'better' schools first and second on the off-chance that they might be lucky. They have nothing to lose. Your solution appears to be to create more capacity at Dobcroft so that more parents can choose it as first choice even though it is not their nearest school. A solution that involves expanding Dobcroft is addressing the wrong issue. You should be improving the other schools that have capacity so that parents will put them as first choice. Even more straightforward is to remove the concept of choice in the first place – everyone should go to their local school which should be of sufficient quality. Education is not a market so demand and supply rules should not apply.

By allowing children to go to their nearest school also addresses the traffic issues. Indeed at this time, an alternative proposal that you should consider is adding more capacity at the other schools and actually reducing Dobcroft's to enable children to go to their local school in order to alleviate the existing problems.

The South West of the city generally already has massive congestion and pollution in the rush hour caused almost exclusively by people transporting their children to school by car. The difference during school holiday time is startling with virtually no queues at all on the main roads and no traffic outside our house.

The Council's own Transport Vision (from your web site) states you want to "reduce congestion, reduce the number of car trips, reduce carbon, reduce noise pollution, improve air quality and encourage walking". Precisely how adding a couple of hundred car trips twice a day to Dobcroft school helps to achieve any of those excellent objectives is difficult to see. Indeed the existing situation of a large number of school runs in cars is producing exactly the opposite effect on the environment.

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I would like to raise the following concerns regarding the proposed permanent class expansion per year group from three to four.

Given that parents have not been consulted over the temporary increase for school year 15/16, it is only fair that we get the opportunity now.

I have significant concerns about the ability of the Dobcroft School site to accommodate what eventually will be 190 more pupils plus teaching and support staff.

- There is limited scope for further physical development of the site. There are already six classes housed in temporary mobile classrooms. The fact that a key learning resource, the infant's library, is having to be turned into a classroom shows that room is already at premium. It is impossible to see how any additional space could be found without negatively impacting on the indoor or outdoor space needed by current students never mind the additional year groups that will need some where to go at break and mealtimes.
- The Dobcroft site is already struggling for sufficient and accessible sanitary arrangements – for 180 children in the mobile class rooms a visit to the toilet is a trip outside and to a facility is also then shared with 60 other children. I am not sure how this sits with any relevant Health and Safety legislation, but more students will only add to this unsatisfactory situation.
- Provision of suitable space and time for lunch is also a concern - again the site is already challenged with servicing its current headcount within the time and space available at lunchtime. Moving one hundred per cent of the infant population to free school meals already seems a big ask. I already feel that children are being rushed through meal times and more children in September will obviously make this situation considerably worse.
- The existing issue of traffic congestion will already be apparent to anybody driving through this part of Sheffield at the start or end of the school day.
  - The local roads are simply incapable of coping with the current traffic levels - adding 400 more journeys everyday would simply be disastrous! An increase in traffic is guaranteed since the new places are being offered to families well outside of the defined catchment.
  - Each term there is some incident regarding dangerous or illegal parking – this ranges from the school leadership having to remind parents of their responsibilities to the police becoming actively involved.
  - The traffic issue not helped by the main access roads also being key routes for other schools – Dobcroft Road & Silverdale to the north and Millhouse Lane & St Wilfred's to the East.

- Car parking on site is already insufficient. In addition to the immediate danger of high levels of traffic poses I suspect that pollution levels would already be much higher than desirable.

Notwithstanding these clear practical concerns I have over the proposal, I am also uncomfortable with the whole principle. There is no issue with provision within the long defined Dobcroft catchment. In fact over last few years Dobcroft has consistently welcomed children from outside its catchment.

Since the lack of places exists elsewhere in the city then perhaps the situation is best resolved at source, rather than shifting the problem elsewhere and forcing families to travel further to school.

This proposal poses a significant threat to the quality of education & experience provided by Dobcroft Schools – such an outcome does not serve the needs of any future pupils, whether within current catchment or forced to cross the city for a school place.

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Regarding the proposed expansion plans for Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools, we would like to make the following points:

Traffic/congestion

As a resident of Whirlowdale Crescent we already experience the following issues:

- a) Parking over drives
- b) Double parking so emergency vehicles wouldn't have access
- c) Inappropriate parking such as parking too close as to block other cars from leaving
- d) Disputes between drivers over parking spaces in some cases leading to confrontation
- e) Safety of children walking to school

These problems are already at such a level that on occasions police have had to come into the school to ask drivers (who were watching a school play) to move their cars.

Having read the statistical information provided, it is apparent that the majority of these additional places will be filled by people living further afield. Therefore, this will undoubtedly lead to an increase in the number of people driving their children to school.

Whilst I appreciate that both the Infant and Junior schools support and promote a 'walk to school' policy, I do not feel this is adequate in relieving any of the problems listed above as not only will people live too far away to walk but also many are working parents who need to drive their children to school before going straight to work.

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I write to express my consternation at the plan to increase the intake at Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools.

Firstly, in my opinion, 120 pupils is too large an intake for an infant school. Pupils, who in some instances are only just 4 years of age, find the transition to infant school from their home setting, or from nursery, a daunting one. To transfer into an intake of 120 pupils is unacceptable. Pupils will feel intimidated and personalisation will be compromised leading to a fall in educational standards. Many educationalists argue that a two form entry is the ideal. It allows the children to know all the adults who work in their school thus allowing them to feel safe and secure. A four form pupil entry is not educationally desirable.

Secondly, the traffic around Dobcroft schools at the end of school and at collection times following after school clubs, is already a real issue. The extra cars an additional 210 pupils will bring (most of whom will be drawn from well outside the current catchment area) pose a huge health and safety risk to all. The local area simply cannot cope with an influx of an extra 120 pupils plus parents and younger siblings. The belief that this issue could be resolved by the addition of access points and parking arrangements, as 'has been achieved in other schools' (FAQs), is frankly laughable. It can surely only be the conclusion of someone who has never seen the school site.

Thirdly, the school simply does not have the capacity to increase any further. Cloakroom, dining, IT facilities are already stretched to breaking point. Building mobile classrooms on site does not solve this problem. Whilst it may be physically possible to put an extra 6 mobiles onto the site, there is no way students would be able to fit into the dining hall at lunchtime or have timetabled access to IT or PE facilities. The building of an extra 6 mobiles on site will mean that Dobcroft's hard work to become an eco school will be forgotten as the council builds on top of the allotment and forest school areas. There will thus be very limited outdoor space for children to play. Outdoor play is a vital element of pupils' education and contributes to their health and well being. This, therefore, will lead to a fall in educational standards. As the Junior school governors have pointed out, many of the elements that give the school it's Ofsted outstanding rating will be lost. School performances, residentials, whole year group outings will be a thing of the past, destroying the outstanding educational experience currently offered.

Finally, the figures that project future pupil numbers show that Dobcroft should not be expanding as it can offer sufficient places to catchment pupils. Next year, the projected figure for students in catchment is less than the 90 places currently available! Expansion is required at Ecclesall Infant school /Clifford and both schools would welcome the opportunity to expand to welcome in the increased pupil numbers from their local area.

I strongly urge the council to re consider this ill conceived proposal.

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We wish to raise our formal objections to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools. We are local residents as well as parents of children at the schools and object strongly on the following grounds.

Firstly, regarding the extra intake planned this September , it is very objectionable that this has been pushed ahead without consultation with parents and without, what we feel to be appropriate supporting statistics. The small number of projected place shortages for this intake does not warrant the disruption to existing children and is particularly short sighted given that it will increase pressure on the school in future years, as places filled this year by out of catchment pupils, will have a knock on effect with sibling applications in subsequent years ( years in which it could more reasonably be agreed that there is legitimate pressure on places from catchment children ) . The plan to cram in an additional class in September will have a negative impact on all existing pupils by reducing space for play and shared learning , mealtimes , PE and cloakroom and toilet access will be very problematic. Increasing numbers will make the infant school a more intimidating place for the young children. Dobcroft already has three form intake and is, as such bigger than other schools in Sheffield, it is clearly at capacity and it is impossible to see how the wellbeing and education of the children will not suffer by further expansion. Although we are convinced that staff and leadership at the schools would always endeavour to do their best for

all pupils , it is difficult to see how they could manage with such increased pressure. The plans for expansion are particularly frustrating given that there is massive opposition by parents and local residents, but significant support for expansion at other local schools (Ecclesall ).

It follows that all the above objections apply to any further expansion , Dobcroft is already a large school and we feel very strongly that increasing numbers would destroy the community feel of the school and make the experience of children much poorer. Young children at the schools can already find the transition to a large school setting very difficult and increased numbers would make their experience more frightening. Overcrowding at meal times , whole school events and playtime would be significant .

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Please accept this email as notification of my grave concern at the proposal to expand Dobcroft Infant and Junior School.

My concerns centre around the following:

1. The huge loss of outdoor space that would result from the creation of a new building. Just when the benefit of outdoor learning is starting to be recognised, you decide to drastically reduce the space available AND add another 200 or so children to share that reduced space!
2. The funding, which should you go ahead with your proposals I will be seeking re-assurances on.
3. Where the additional children will be from - it must be outside of catchment as there aren't a further 30 children IN catchment? This then changes the nature of what has been a very local school.
4. The additional traffic in Millhouses which will become unbearable and quite frankly dangerous.

I am very interested to hear why you would choose to expand Dobcroft school given all of the substantiated concerns that have been raised by a huge number of people, and given there is a very clear, and welcome, alternative in expanding Clifford and Eccleshall? I would like to see the Impact Assessment that was presumably prepared in reaching your proposal - pls could you forward / provide a link?

I am also particularly incensed that you have been able to increase the coming September intake without any consultation and only communicating your intent 9 months in advance (giving parents no time to properly consider alternatives)! Was that a lack of planning?

I look forward to hearing back from you.

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As a grandparent of two children @ Dobcroft, I am very concerned re proposal for expansion @ Dobcroft.  
It is not appropriate.  
I support the petition against this proposal.

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I found out about the Sheffield School Reorganisation through my three year old son's nursery. My family and I have been resident in the catchment for Dobcroft for a long time now and have always expected our children to go to Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools. Needless to say we were alarmed to hear that in recent years children had been rejected from the catchment due to the school being oversubscribed. We felt it was particularly unfair that new families moving to the catchment area specifically so that their children could attend the school would and could be prioritised over us if they lived closer in distance despite living in the area for much less time than us. Having to send our son to any other school would make our lives extremely difficult given that my husband has a long commute to work and has to leave at 5.30am and that we share transport and have more than one child to attend to in a morning. Dobcroft is the nearest school to us and the easiest by far to walk to.

Consequently we were absolutely delighted to hear about the potential extension to Dobcroft Infant School and would be fully in support of such a measure. In our opinion it is a fair and sensible longer-term solution to the problem of over-subscribed schools in the area and having read the more detailed information on offer regarding the proposal it seems favourable over the alternatives that have been considered. I wanted to take this opportunity to express our full support regarding the extension to Dobcroft School.

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I am a local resident (Millhouses lane) and very concerned about the expansion of Dobcroft school, and its proposed permanence. **I wish to formally object to this proposal** as I am worried about the increased volume of traffic along an already very busy road-particularly at school times.

**I was recently on paternity leave for two weeks and witnessed first hand for the first time the chaos and gridlock outside our house. The double parking and three zebra crossings mean incredible congestion. There are three schools on our road!**

Personally, we will be able to walk when the time comes, as many local residents clearly already do (I saw the numbers blocking the road on the crossings) but I understand these extra places are from outside catchment, so will mean extra cars clearly. Its hard to see how this will work next year, let alone if the increase is made permanent and 200+ extra cars are in the area every day.

Moreover I have worked in schools in more affluent areas where students from outside local catchment have been integrated. This can be a very effective and desirable way of raising aspiration and attainment. I am in strongly in favour. However, I believe it is best implemented when such pupils are in a small minority and are spread across year groups. **In my experience, there is a tipping point where you start to see the school that you valued and wished to spread being instead overly diluted. A increase of 50% (it is not 33% as has been stated, as it means 30 extra on top of 60 that exist) in pupil intake is a huge proportional increase.**

For me, for such a drastic problem regarding numbers as it seems exists, **a new school has to be part of the solution. I am unaware if this is feasible, but the old LEA building at Bannerdale is set in massive grounds and seems to be doing very little...**

**I understand Governors at Dobcroft are against this decision, both in the short and long term. There are other excellent local schools who are keen to increase their size and number of pupils.** Surely this is a better option?

This also seems to be the preferred option of Nick Clegg MP. I am sure you will not be

engaging in party politics in making further decisions.

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i am a local resident of this school, and my 2 older children attended both schools, my younger child attends Dobcroft Junior at present.

I have three main areas of concern regarding this expansion,

1- how the quality of education will be affected at the schools. ? This could be related to limitation of classroom space, staff ratios, play space.

2- The impact on the local roads with extra numbers driving to the schools.

3- The demographic mix at the schools- will they inevitably take non catchment children from different parts of the city

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I would like to object to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft school. At the moment, one extra class is proposed for the Infant school. This will involve the closure of the library which you would thought of as vital when you are introducing infants to reading and the contraction of Dash which is very important to working parents. If the school is expanded by an extra 33 per cent then the consequences for parking will be dangerous as it is already very busy as any out of catchment children will be coming by car.

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I write with reference to the proposed expansion to Dobcroft Infants and Junior schools in 2016 and the proposed emergency expansion in 2015.

I live in the catchment for Ecclesall Infants and would be very disappointed if my child did not get a place at our local school. Local schools are essential to community cohesion and reducing road traffic . I note that you consider that Dobcroft is well served to meet a wider geographic area, though your consultation document does not anticipate an extensive need across that wider area.

However, I do think that due to proposals for housing and an increase in families in the local demographic, it is likely that an expansion is required at several schools, including Ecclesall, Dobcroft, Dore and Totley.

I note that the option of expansion at Ecclesall and Clifford is considered unduly expensive, though this does seem to me to be the most appropriate option to meet the actual identified need.

I would suggest that other savings could be made in merging linked infant and junior schools in terms of management and governance. Having separate governing bodies and management teams appears to me to be excessively wasteful in these times of reduced budgets.

I trust that my views will be reported in full to the committee considering this matter.

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I am writing with regard to the proposed increase from 3 classes per year to 4 classes per year at Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools.

As a parent to one child currently in Year 3 (juniors) and one in Year 1 (infants) and also as

a local resident, I would like to express my concerns over the impact the proposals will have over the education of my children, their well being and the impact on the local area.

It seems to me that Dobcroft is an easy choice for the Council because they are strong schools which still carry "outstanding" classifications from Ofsted so it prevents putting further pressure on other local schools which do not fare so well. However, with 3 classes per year group, Dobcroft already has one of the largest year groups in Sheffield, let alone the South West region. Topley school only has one class per year and recently appeared at the top of the Primary School league tables. This cannot be a coincidence and my fear is that the quality of education provided at Dobcroft will slip as the Schools struggle to cope with the sheer volume of children coming through.

My other concerns are as follows:

1) The issue with increased school places required from September 2015 intake, according to statistics, is not an issue within Dobcrofts' catchment area. In fact the issue lies within Topley and Ecclesall Infant Schools' areas. In addition, I understand that Ecclesall Infant School welcome an increase from a 2 class to 3 class intake.

2) By adding an additional Reception Class in September 2015, which I understand is "a done deal" with no consultation, you will be taking a much needed and wanted resource, as this additional class will be placed in the current Library. It also means additional children are crammed into a school which is already not 'fit for purpose'. We already have 1 classroom where children need to walk through another classroom to obtain access to the rest of the school. By placing this additional class in the Library this will create the same problem. Why is it acceptable to disrupt other classes?

3) Dobcroft Infant & Juniors Schools have a high proportion of SEN children. By adding additional children numbers to the school I fail to see how the excellent level of teaching for these children and infact all children can be maintained?

4) There are currently insufficient toilet facilities at the Infant School to cope with an additional class in 2015 let alone any more. Already there are 2 classrooms that are in portacabins which need to cross outside to access the toilets. Is this really acceptable?

5) There is not enough spare land at either school to facilitate further buildings. The Infant School playground is already small and cannot be made any smaller without infringing on the safety and enjoyment of the children. If the plan is to build on the playing fields at the Junior School then this sends out a particularly negative message the Council places on health, fitness and sport in Schools and will meet fierce opposition from parents across both Schools.

6) Following the introduction of free school meals, the Infant School already struggles to get the children through at lunchtime and in fact lunchtime already lasts 1hr 20 mins so already cuts into the daily teaching time. If the proposals are to stagger lunchtime, this will mean some children going long periods of time without a meal which will, without question, affect their concentration in lessons. In fact no child should be expected to eat their lunch after 1.00pm as many will have had their breakfast before 7.30am and can not last until 1.00pm before eating their lunch.



7) The school hall will not be able to hold all children at once if there is an increase in numbers, especially for assembly time. What about community spirit - bringing all the children together?

8) Increasing the annual intake and presumably the catchment area will result in more parents dropping off by car as they will have to travel further to get to the schools. As both schools are adjacent with 2 other schools very close by, it is already a bottle neck in the local vicinity and there is a significantly increased risk to the children of bringing extra traffic to the area at drop off/pick up time. Has anyone from the Council been to the school at drop off / pick up to see the problems we already have?

9) I understand Ecclesall C of E School and Clifford Infant School are both canvassing to obtain the extra intake and obtain the extra funding. Other schools in the South West of Sheffield have class sizes of under 30 such as Hallam and Nethergreen so there are other options for the Council.

10) Last year, 8 children in catchment did not get a place at Dobcroft. This was unprecedented. Is that enough to warrant an increase of 210 children across both schools? In addition, I would be interested to know how many children outside catchment obtained a place in the school last year?

11) Finally, I don't want my children or anybody else's children to attend a 'super-sized' infants school. It will be more like a Secondary school and far too large for them to feel safe and noticed. I understand this point is an emotional statement, but we are talking about children, where many will just have turned 4 years old!

Please consider these points when making the final decision about where the increase will be and if they are absolutely necessary at all.

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Having now had the opportunity to read the Frequently Asked Questions document (as updated 4th February 2015), I have a number of concerns and queries in regard to the information provided on page 5 under the heading "Won't this make the school too big?"

If one had no knowledge of the layout and proximity of the Dobcroft Infant and Dobcroft Junior schools, then the comparisons drawn in this section in relation to 'through' primaries and Lydgate Infant and Junior Schools may provide a relevant response. However, as I would assume that those responsible for preparing the document would know the layout and proximity of the two Dobcroft Schools, it should be clear that the comparisons made on page 5 are incorrect and misleading. Whilst Dobcroft Junior and Dobcroft Infants schools are separate buildings and have separate leadership, they essentially share the same site, with the schools only separated by a fence. As such they have a shared car park, a shared main entrance and exit, both schools are only accessible via Pingle Road or the pathway that links Dobcroft Road and Millhouses Lane.

As such if comparisons are to be made to 'through' primaries, then it seems unreasonable to compare the size of each school individually rather than as a combined entity, i.e. having 630 pupils currently and 840 if the proposed expansion goes ahead. This would make it impossible to provide any comparison in size between Dobcroft and any 'through' primary.

Also the comparison to Lydgate Infant and Junior schools also fail to provide details on the significant (and therefore material) differences between these schools and Dobcroft. You fail to articulate that the Lydgate schools occupy two completely separate sites. They have

completely different entrances, different parking arrangements, are accessed via different roads, etc. Therefore, it must be made clear at the presentation of any proposal that the council has NO comparator or case study for how a school of 840 pupils, which are both accessed via the same entrance, and are both essentially on the same site. Therefore, Sheffield council cannot, with any accuracy, predict the impact on children attending the school, the impact of parking in the local vicinity, etc. A fact which will be further compounded by the fact that there is less distance between the Dobcroft Schools and St Wilfreds School, than there is between Lydgate Infants and Lydgate Junior schools.

Whilst it is reasonable to seek to reassure parents and residents with the FAQ document, it is not reasonable to fail to articulate major disparities when one school is compared to another to provide reassurance. I would therefore seek some reassurance that these comparisons will not be made as part of any proposals put in front of the Councillors without clearly highlighting where such major differences occur.

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I am writing to register my opposition to the current plans to increase the intake at Dobcroft Infant school.

I am a parent of a child in the school, have a younger child who will hopefully go there, and am a very local resident who has to deal with the traffic problems that already exist at drop off and pick up time.

The school is already full to the brim. There aren't enough toilets for children already there. Lunchtime already takes all of the allotted time to get every child fed, and two classes are already in 'temporary' classrooms - and have been for a very long time.

From the information I have seen, the places available are sufficient for the expected intakes over the next few years. Geographically Dobcroft may be in the right area for the overflow of the other local oversubscribed schools, but that is the only reason I can see for Dobcroft being the school that is extended. The actual layout and footprint of the school is certainly not adequate for expansion. Also it is already larger than most of the other local schools. So why should it be increased more?!

We moved to the area for a good school. We could have chosen a school of Dobcroft's proposed size - but we chose to move away from that school for that very reason.

As a local resident I object to more children attending Dobcroft from out of catchment as there is already traffic chaos caused by parents parking around school. Often the bus becomes stuck and has to wait. Roads are blocked and it is dangerous for children trying to cross the road safely.

Expanding Dobcroft seems like a short term reaction to a problem that surely should have been flagged up years ago. Surely someone at the council looks at local birth rates and links this to school intake?! So why the sudden shock that local schools don't have enough places for THIS academic reception year?

Other local schools are asking to be expanded. I find it ridiculous that a school that really does not want, nor is really viable to be expanded, is.

I have seen that the council is not willing to look into the problems of the hall being too small, too few toilets, residents objections and local traffic issues will not be looked into until planning is being sought. How much time and money will this waste if then there are too many issues/objections to go forward?

I look forward to a response.

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Many thanks for your reply. A number of concerns that parents/the school have are still not being addressed by the team. These are:

How are the health and safety issues being addressed? The stock answer of "30 extra children isn't that much" doesn't apply when you are talking about a building designed as a 2 form entry and is full to bursting.

What provision is being put in place for 2015? It's happening in just over 6 months time the stock answer of "we are working with the school" is insufficient.

The school has twice the national average of Plus Stage SEN children, how are their needs going to be met with a huge loss of intervention space in 2015? This will be catastrophic for these children if it's not addressed.

Why no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcrofts catchment.

Crisis catchments such as Ecclesall and Totley will not be able to access the extra places at Dobcroft, these will be filled with children from closer schools such as Holt House, as they have admissions criteria priority. How is the SCC addressing the immediate crisis in Ecclesall and Totley?

Can we have a copy of the feasibility report?

Why Dobcroft and not Greenhill? It's central, has gross site capacity and is a good school.

Can we see the space per pupil figures for the schools in a two mile radius? We need this information for informed consultation.

Why is the consultation so short? We still do not have all the information? Surely to consult you need information.

Why 2.1 million? Who decided the budget? Will it cover all the expansion needed in buildings already not fit for purpose? How was it calculated?

If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for the 2016 intake?

If the proposal does not go through what will become of the 30 displaced 2015 children?

If you could reply specific to any of these concerns it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

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As a local resident, I would like to register my opposition to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft School on the grounds of traffic management and the health and safety implications of the additional traffic movements.

The increased traffic movements/parking requirements that the additional places would generate would have a negative impact on the already congested streets in the vicinity of the school at drop off and pick up times. This would increase the risk of serious injury to pupils crossing the roads to school as parents increasingly park close to junctions and in restricted areas in their bid to get as close to school to park to drop off their children, giving no regard to the children either walking to school or crossing over in the vicinity of school.

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With only 2 days to go until "consultation" closes we still have not received a response from you regarding these basic questions.

We do not believe this process can be considered in anyway a fair consultation as requests for information which fundamentally shape the nature and issues of the proposal are being ignored. We wish this observation to be clearly registered with whoever is running this process!

Please provide the information requested below before the end of consultation.

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There are now only 2 days to go until the end of consultation and I have received no acknowledgement or attempt to answer the questions I raised with you on 26 January.

Please could you provide some meaningful responses to key questions and concerns parents are raising over this proposal:

The school has twice the national average of Plus Stage SEN children, how are their needs going to be met with a huge loss of intervention space in 2015? The effects will be catastrophic for these children if it's not addressed.

Why has there been no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcroft's catchment area so do your "emergency laws" actually valid in this scenario?

Crisis catchments such as Ecclesall and Totley will not be able to access the extra places at Dobcroft as these will be filled with children from closer schools such as Holt House, as they have admissions criteria priority. So how is the SCC addressing the immediate crisis in Ecclesall and Totley?

Can we have a copy of the feasibility report?

Why Dobcroft and not Greenhill? It's much more "central" to the SW area and has gross site capacity?

Can we see the space per pupil figures for the schools in a two mile radius? We need this information for informed consultation.

Why is the consultation so short? We still do not have all the information? Surely to consult you need information?

Why 2.1 million? Who decided the budget? Will it cover all the expansion needed in buildings already not fit for purpose? How was it calculated?

If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for the 2016 intake?

What expert advice has been sought about the psychological and educational implications of imposing a very large school on very young children? And if so, what specifically was advised?

What will happen to the Dash facility? The school do not appear to have a workable solution

despite you saying that it is for the school to resolve.

How is encouraging more cars into a heavily populated residential area acceptable?

The Consultation meetings at school were billed as the opportunity to get questions answered and to register concerns. However, the majority of Council Officers attending knew little of the proposal and could not answer questions. They also captured very few questions or concerns raised which means that the parents concerns and questions are likely to be woefully under-represented both quantitatively and qualitatively. Surely that means that due process has not been followed?

Please respond to these questions, none of which are new, before the end of consultation so that other parents may also consider the responses meaningfully.

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*Also see attachment at end of document*

Please consider this a formal contribution to the current consultation about 2016 expansion of Dobcroft Infant School. I write in the capacity of a parent and citizen, rather than a school governor, although I do also sit on Dobcroft Infant School Governing Body as well.

I am firmly of the opinion that Sheffield City Council should be acting based upon the best evidence available to them. Over the last few weeks I have been looking at the data behind school application forecasts, and produced the attached note using public data provided by SCC. Of course, these forecasts are merely estimates - the factors of migration and school preference are imperfect things to model. But, I believe they are as robust as anything the council has to work with. On that basis my comments are thus:

1. The 2015 temporary expansion of Dobcroft School (not formally part of this consultation).  
- The data suggests that Dobcroft Catchment will have a small amount of pressure in 2015. It suggests Ecclesall catchment will have SIGNIFICANT pressure. Why was the decision taken to expand a school with much less pressure than one with greater pressure? Is there a better answer than 'So children in Ecclesall and Totley who won't get a place in their chosen school won't have to travel too far to the school we put them in but they didn't want to go to?' That is the conclusion parents are drawing. If there is a better one, I urge you to publish it.

2. The 2016 expansion of Dobcroft School  
- The data suggests that whilst Dobcroft will have some pressure in coming years, Both Ecclesall and Totley will have greater pressure. The data suggests to me that 30 places in SW Sheffield may well not be enough. The council should look at the long term concerns in Ecclesall and Totley. Would 2 interventions, one in each catchment, not offer a better solution to the planning area problem than merely solving the 3rd biggest catchment problem in Dobcroft?

I am happy to talk with councillors about the data if helpful. I am open and honest about the analysis and support collaborative working. In that spirit, I wish to raise now the questions I will ask under FOI should a decision be taken to expand Dobcroft Infant School and no others from 2016 to ensure SCC will be able to provide answers it is comfortable with.

Question: Did The School Re-organisation Team present the forecasting work done by Dobcroft Infant School Governing Body, published on SCC's website, to the Cabinet in order to inform their decision making?

If No: Why did the school re-organisation team not think this analysis was relevant to the decision making process, were other forecasts presented and what was the methodology for any forecast numbers that were presented?

If Yes: Upon what basis did the Cabinet think that investing in a solution which leaves 80-85% of the problem in SW Sheffield unaddressed, when intervening in other catchment areas would solve a much greater proportion of the problem, was an appropriate use of taxpayer's money?

Finally, SCC will at some point soon have 2015 application data at its disposal in order to have a better understanding of the problem prior to a 2016 decision. Based upon my data modelling work I predict that:

-Dobcroft will receive 80-90 applications from in catchment. Combined with priority applications from out of catchment, I anticipate there being 10-20 places left for other catchment children within it's intake of 120.

-I predict that a few of these will be taken by holt house catchment children.

-I predict that the remainder will be taken by Ecclesall and Totley children, very few of which chose to come here above their catchment school, the majority of which were placed here as a damage limitation job after not getting into their current catchment.

Whether that is the case or not, you have a working pilot of the impact of Dobcroft expansion based upon 2015 applications recently received., This is a great basis upon which to base your 2016 decision in terms of likely impact of the ripple effect of Dobcroft expansion into other catchment. I encourage you to use it, and am happy to provide my analytical skills at no cost to help you do so.

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As parents to two children at Dobcroft Infant School, we are very concerned about the proposed expansion to both Dobcroft infant and Dobcroft Junior Schools, and we wish to formally object to the councils proposals.

The biggest concerns we share are:

1. **Data supplied in the FAQ's document does not signify the need for an increase in the school size.**

On the contrary it supports the fact that not all schools are using their full capacity. What is the rationale for not utilizing this spare capacity when increasing the size of the Dobcroft schools will require significant capital funding? As council taxpayers this does not demonstrate the effective management and use of limited council resources.

2. **Just Too Big for Little Children.**

Dobcroft is already a large primary school, one of the largest in the city. The school management, teachers and governors have done an excellent job in ensuring that the school doesn't overwhelm its pupils. Increasing size will heap unnecessary pressure on the existing children and the teachers - who already have an excessive workload.

3. **Insufficient / Inadequate Shared Space**

The current use of shared space is already at a critical point with lunchtimes, PE, library and ICT activities crowded and challenging to provide. The temporary proposals already indicate the loss of shared space and the reduction of library and ICT facilities (at least in the short term). This will restrict the curriculum offer which

Dobcroft have built an outstanding reputation on. Is it the wish of the council to make it more challenging for the school to achieve outstanding OFSTEAD reports?

#### **4. Overcrowding**

There are already c.270 children on a small infant site. the addition of 30 children in September 2015 will be challenging. An additional 90 children over 3 years overcrowded. This represents a 25% increase in the size of a school which is already underfunded.

#### **5. Reduced Space Available for Play**

Inevitably an increase in numbers of children and a fixed site size will mean more children per square meter. Cramming so many children into such a small space is both unacceptable and will present health and safety and behavior challenges.

#### **6. Disruption and Safety Risks**

It is clear that the council's decision to increase the size of the school in September without any consultation is already placing the school under unnecessary pressure. If the council continue to overstretch staff it is inevitable that there will be disruption to the children's education and, as noted above, present unnecessary safety risks. Why should the current pupils have to live through an expansion of the school via a building programme and internal disruption? Disruption will manifest itself in a number of ways;

- for the children. Our Foundation Stage children will experience this at least three times as:
  - the building work to create the new library & ICT area takes place
  - the building work to create new classrooms for the additional children in 2016 and 2017 takes place in the Infants School
  - the building work takes place to the Junior School to accommodate the additional numbers, starting the first year our Foundation Stage children join the Junior School. (If the Junior School building work is phased in year by year then our Children will experience this every single year they are at Junior School!)
7. **Road Safety Danger and Traffic Congestion with a significant increase in road congestion and parking challenges**

Given that the data indicates that the catchment of the school does not support the need of additional places on this scale means that children outside of catchment will be allocated places at Dobcroft. Inevitably this will mean an increase in traffic around the school site (which is already unacceptable). This presents a clear and present danger to the young children attending the school. The council need to look more closely at ensuring ALL school places are allocated before considering school expansion.

#### **8. Merging of library/ICT resource room to accommodate extra class in September 2015.**

To merge two valuable resources into one area will have a profound impact on pupils accessing these valuable resources. There will be potentially fewer computers and books, and more children!

**9. Staggered lunchtimes.**

The Dobcroft Junior School statement objecting to the councils proposal clearly indicates that the staggering of lunchtimes will cause both educational and operational problems in the school. This disruption is unacceptable.

We trust that you take these concerns in a constructive manner but also understand that we oppose these changes in the strongest possible terms. The schools do tremendously well on limited resources and we implore the council to examine the alternative options outlined in this letter and by others. There must be a more financially viable and less educationally disruptive way around the issues outlined by the City Council.

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Can you please explain why you still have replied to both my emails? The first was sent on the 20/1/15 and the second was sent 8/2/15!

With such a short 'Consultation' period I am increasingly frustrated that I have not received any feedback from you, thus, giving me no time to respond before the 11/2/15.

At the very least can you please acknowledge that you have received both my emails!

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I am writing to express my concerns over the recently announced expansion to the reception year group of dobcroft infant school for 2015/2016 admissions.

My daughter is due to start school in September and we spent a lot of time looking into possible schools. We chose to move into the area to ensure that we were in the Dobcroft/Silverdale catchment area. I emailed the council a couple of times to check catchment areas, and school intake numbers, and at no time was this increase in numbers mentioned. We only moved at the end of December, so there was plenty of opportunity to inform us of this increase, but we find out the week before the application deadline. We did not even receive a letter - I found out via other parents, which I think is disgraceful. It's as if we don't even have the right to know about decisions that affect my daughters education. The application packs that initially came out didn't mention a 120 child intake either. You must have been aware of this sooner and I feel it was wrong to keep this information from prospective parents. We are now left with no choice but to attend an overcrowded Dobcroft school as all other schools are over capacity.

I do not fully understand why the increase is to be made to Dobcroft, when the facilities are not there to support the extra children. From the research I have done, it would appear that



there are less than 90 children this year in the Dobcroft catchment area, so why are Dobcroft having to create the extra class?

As a local resident, I am concerned for the increase in traffic that an additional 30-40 children outside of catchment area would bring. The traffic is already dangerously high. What provisions have you put in place to deal with this?

I appreciate that Holt House, Ecclesall, Dore and Topley are also over subscribed, however, how do you know that this will ease the situation? People in Dore, Topley, and Ecclesall will still put their catchment schools as first choice. I know parents who live in Woodseats and Abbey Lane catchment areas who will now be putting Dobcroft school as their first choice. They live nearer than people in Dore, Topley and Ecclesall (for example, on Archer Road), yet are not in an over subscribed catchment area. How is this helping people in Dore/Topley/Ecclesall, and what will you be doing to stop this happening?

I have read a document from Dobcroft school explaining why they couldn't admit any extra pupils last year. It states that the classrooms are below the standard of 67m. Also that there are not enough toilets for the children based on requirements. When I spoke to the school, they were planning to lose the library, but no mention was made of extra toilets. What is the plan to address this?

In the same document, the cloakrooms are described as 'Very small and squashed' and being 'Intimidating and noisy for the children'. This is with 60 children to a cloakroom. There were no plans for building any new cloakrooms, and I was wondering what you will be doing to address this as I am very concerned for my daughter.

What provisions are in place for when the school loses their library?

The school is overcrowded and by increasing the size it is putting the children's welfare at risk, while losing outside space and not addressing the actual problem. I feel very let down that this has come to light just after moving house, and am incredibly disappointed by the council and the way the matter is being dealt with.

I have several times asked about plans to change catchment areas and have been assured that this is not the case, although it is now an agenda on the council meeting in March, so yet again I feel as though I have been lied to.

I would appreciate a response on the points I have raised.

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I note your reply, but don't feel it answers any of my concerns.

I find it hard to believe that we are being asked to comment on a consultation without the information required to do so. I have been looking for more information, but have become more alarmed the more I look into this. I recently read the governors response to the consultation, from Dobcroft junior school and it made for very poor reading. The issues around inclusion were particularly frightening, with children being unable to take part in residential and performances. It is also a concern that the required 3 hours per week of PE will not be achievable. Why is no one concerned about the impact on the children and their health? This is a really important issue.

Your plans for Dobcroft schools has already influenced my decision to amend my school application for 2015. I have been to several groups over the last few weeks, and met up with people from all of the nearby catchment areas. The people I spoke to from Ecclesall catchment were as appalled with your plans for Dobcroft as we are. It made them even more

determined to not send their children there. The people I spoke to were keeping their options as Ecclesall, greystones and hunters bar. Those who had considered Dobcroft had changed their minds when they found out more about the plans.

The people I spoke to from Dore and totley were equally concerned about the plans for Dobcroft and has kept their choices of Dore, Totley and Totley All Saints. The only people who had changed their choice positively towards Dobcroft were from Woodseats and holt house catchments. I know this is only a very small section, but was wondering when we get to find out the statistics surrounding applications this year? It definitely needs to be considered before any long term decisions can be made. The changes you are making to the school are consequently making it unappealing to the very catchment areas you are trying to attract and I struggle to see how this will solve the alleged problem.

Other concerns which I do not feel have been addressed are detailed below.

How are the health and safety issues being addressed? The stock answer of "30 extra children isn't that much" doesn't apply when you are talking about a building designed as a 2 form entry and is full to bursting.

What provision is being put in place for 2015? It's happening in just over 6 months time the stock answer of "we are working with the school" is insufficient.

The school has twice the national average of Plus Stage SEN children, how are their needs going to be met with a huge loss of intervention space in 2015? This will be catastrophic for these children if it's not addressed.

Why no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcrofts catchment. I feel the answer I received at the consultation meeting of "legally we don't have to" is disgraceful and depressant explain anything.

Crisis catchments such as Ecclesall and Totley will not be able to access the extra places at Dobcroft, these will be filled with children from closer schools such as Holt House, as they have admissions criteria priority. How is the SCC addressing the immediate crisis in Ecclesall and Totley?

Can we have a copy of the feasibility report?

Why Dobcroft and not Greenhill? It's central, has gross site capacity and is a good school.

Can we see the space per pupil figures for the schools in a two mile radius? We need this information for informed consultation.

Why is the consultation so short? We still do not have all the information? Surely to consult you need information.

Why 2.1 million? Who decided the budget? Will it cover all the expansion needed in buildings already not fit for purpose? How was it calculated?

If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for the 2016 intake?

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I am emailing to share my concerns about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School. I am a parent of a foundation stage pupil and am also expecting a new baby imminently so will be a parent at the school for many years to come.

I was shocked to learn of the planned extra class for 2015 for which there was no consultation. There are currently no clear plans of how this will be taken forward. A room that is currently the library and also DASH will be used as a classroom. Where will the library then be? Where will DASH be?

My next concern is around the shared spaces in school and how they can accommodate an extra 30 children. The school hall is already small for the number of children at the school and doubles as the dining room. How will the school manage to accommodate these extra children at lunchtime without rushing children through their lunches. The hall is used for P.E. classes and if another event occurs then children lose out on their P.E. classes, for example for the consultation with council on extra school places, school photos etc. Currently, the school hall is needed for 18 hours of P.E., 2 hours per class, plus dinner time, this will need to increase to 20 hours plus dinner time. Increases will need to be accommodated library time and IT time for the extra class too. In this digital age children should be having more access to computers etc not less.

The concerns detailed above follow for the expansion to an extra class in each year but would be exemplified.

Another big concern with the full expansion is the safety of pupils on site if it increases to 840 children. This is a large number of children for the site. While, Lydgate Infants and Juniors are of a similar size to the expanded schools would be they are on separate sites. For a 4 year old starting at a school site with so many pupils will be a daunting experience. Any expansion will result in a loss of outdoor space which with more children more not less will be needed.

How will building work be managed to avoid disruption to the current children and residents? To ensure that at all times the site is safe for such young children?

Another important problem is the traffic issue around the school. This is exacerbated by the school been on a cul-de-sac, having limited access points and been so near to St Wilfrids and Mylnhurst schools. Expanding the school intake from 90 to 120 will increase the catchment area increasing the number of parents driving children to school and needing to park.

Thank-you for taking the time to read my concerns.

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I object to the proposal to expand Dobcroft Infant & Junior schools for the following reasons;

- Lack of information provided - for example budget information gives no idea of the scope of work proposed and therefore whether it would provide a level of accommodation that the school, parents and local community are satisfied with as opposed to providing a bare minimum provision that does not provide a long term solution for the site. As all the existing "temporary" classrooms highlight this has happened before.

- Lack of time for the consultation. Notwithstanding the way the current 2015 expansion is being progressed with no consultation, the 2016 consultation process has been badly planned with little time given to the school to allow the consultation to be properly planned and managed, resulting in some misinformation in the community and distrust from all parties of how the Council is undertaking this process.

- The school already has one of the larger intakes in the area and the school and staff work hard to ensure this is not intimidating for the children, increasing this further will have a significant impact on the "feel" of the school and how children feel about it. Other schools could increase and still be below the dobcroft intake level.

- Traffic. Whilst many school sites suffer from parking and traffic issues, the location of Dobcroft in close proximity to St Wilfreds and Mylnhurst means the roads around the site suffer significantly at peak times. Whilst some additional traffic controls could help the existing situation, the proposed increase in pupil numbers would lead to a level of traffic and parking issues in the area that would be unsafe and cause significant issues for parents, the local community and the school alike that would not be solved by some simple traffic calming measures.

- Where would any additional parking resulting from the increased capacity be provided, the only potential areas are external play areas for the school and it seems counter productive to reduce this further.

- There is a lack of space on the site, and further building footprint will only exacerbate the issue on this site, whether a permanent issue or temporary during construction this will have a bearing on the education of the existing pupils.

- Location, whilst it may be central to the south west area, information provided suggests that the issue is worse in Totley and Ecclesall and the proposal does not truly explain the

reasons why Dobcroft has been chosen other than a "feeling" that by being central it will solve all the problems.

- Given the structure of the existing hall and kitchen significant investment will be needed to provide accommodation suitable for the school to deliver the curriculum for which they have gained such a good reputation. There is no information provided as to whether this will be addressed in any proposal.

- No consideration seems to have been given to other activities on the site, such as After school clubs, DASH etc which are already oversubscribed at some times and for which there seems to be no plan to properly address this issue.

- Further information is needed on how budget decisions have been made about this site to establish what sort of provision is proposed, before any decision over viability can be taken and this broad information should be shared.

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I am writing with regard to the proposed increase from 3 classes per year to 4 classes per year at Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools.

As a parent to one child currently in Year 3 (juniors) and one in Year 1 (infants) and also as a local resident, I would like to express my concerns over the impact the proposals will have over the education of my children, their well being and the impact on the local area.

It seems to me that Dobcroft is an easy choice for the Council because they are strong schools which still carry "outstanding" classifications from Ofsted so it prevents putting further pressure on other local schools which do not fare so well. However, with 3 classes per year group, Dobcroft already has one of the largest year groups in Sheffield, let alone the South West region. Topley school only has one class per year and recently appeared at the top of the Primary School league tables. This cannot be a coincidence and my fear is that the quality of education provided at Dobcroft will slip as the Schools struggle to cope with the sheer volume of children coming through.

My other concerns are as follows:

1) The issue with increased school places required from September 2015 intake, according to statistics, is not an issue within Dobcrofts' catchment area. In fact the issue lies within Topley and Ecclesall Infant Schools' areas. In addition, I understand that Ecclesall Infant School welcome an increase from a 2 class to 3 class intake.

2) By adding an additional Reception Class in September 2015, which I understand is "a done deal" with no consultation, you will be taking a much needed and wanted resource, as this additional class will be placed in the current Library. It also means additional children are crammed into a school which is already not 'fit for purpose'. We already have 1 classroom where children need to walk through another classroom to obtain access to the rest of the school. By placing this additional class in the Library this will create the same problem. Why is it acceptable to disrupt other classes?

3) Dobcroft Infant & Juniors Schools have a high proportion of SEN children. By adding additional children numbers to the school I fail to see how the excellent level of teaching for these children and infact all children can be maintained?

- 4) There are currently insufficient toilet facilities at the Infant School to cope with an additional class in 2015 let alone any more. Already there are 2 classrooms that are in portacabins which need to cross outside to access the toilets. Is this really acceptable?
- 5) There is not enough spare land at either school to facilitate further buildings. The Infant School playground is already small and cannot be made any smaller without infringing on the safety and enjoyment of the children. If the plan is to build on the playing fields at the Junior School then this sends out a particularly negative message the Council places on health, fitness and sport in Schools and will meet fierce opposition from parents across both Schools.
- 6) Following the introduction of free school meals, the Infant School already struggles to get the children through at lunchtime and in fact lunchtime already lasts 1hr 20 mins so already cuts into the daily teaching time. If the proposals are to stagger lunchtime, this will mean some children going long periods of time without a meal which will, without question, affect their concentration in lessons. In fact no child should be expected to eat their lunch after 1.00pm as many will have had their breakfast before 7.30am and can not last until 1.00pm before eating their lunch.
- 7) The school hall will not be able to hold all children at once if there is an increase in numbers, especially for assembly time. What about community spirit - bringing all the children together?
- 8) Increasing the annual intake and presumably the catchment area will result in more parents dropping off by car as they will have to travel further to get to the schools. As both schools are adjacent with 2 other schools very close by, it is already a bottle neck in the local vicinity and there is a significantly increased risk to the children of bringing extra traffic to the area at drop off/pick up time. Has anyone from the Council been to the school at drop off / pick up to see the problems we already have?
- 9) I understand Ecclesall C of E School and Clifford Infant School are both canvassing to obtain the extra intake and obtain the extra funding. Other schools in the South West of Sheffield have class sizes of under 30 such as Hallam and Nethergreen so there are other options for the Council.
- 10) Last year, 8 children in catchment did not get a place at Dobcroft. This was unprecedented. Is that enough to warrant an increase of 210 children across both schools? In addition, I would be interested to know how many children outside catchment obtained a place in the school last year?
- 11) Finally, I don't want my children or anybody else's children to attend a 'super-sized' infants school. It will be more like a Secondary school and far too large for them to feel safe and noticed. I understand this point is an emotional statement, but we are talking about children, where many will just have turned 4 years old!

Please consider these points when making the final decision about where the increase will be and if they are absolutely necessary at all.

I am writing to you regarding the proposed expansion to Dobcroft Infants School and the proposed extra class for the 2015 intake.

I am totally against the expansion of this school and am astonished that this proposal has been made to solve an issue which has been looming over the council for some time.

Dobcroft is at this time working to its full capacity, with an intake of 90 children each year. To increase this to 120 either as a permanent or temporary measure is wholly unacceptable, both from the point of view of a parent and from the children's perspective.

The school does not have the basic facilities to cater for this expansion and to go ahead with it will just be detrimental to the educational needs of the children, as well as being unable to cater for the basic provisions required to function as a working school such as toilets, cloakrooms and outdoor space.

The fact that the proposed extra class will be located in the library is unbelievable, in the year 2015 how is it not a basic right of a child to have access to a school library, at a time when public libraries are being closed across the city. As well as the issue regarding enough floor space area per child within the school, so as to not breach health and safety guidelines, of which the Sheffield City Council should surely be adhering. How can an overcrowded, over-stretched learning environment be good for any child in this day and age.

It is with great disregard to the parents of Dobcroft school children that this expansion has been decided upon without consultation. It is obvious that Dobcroft school runs on the good will of the majority of parents and teachers, giving up spare time and days off to fund-raise for basic school equipment including the refurbishment of the playground and toilets. Therefore it would only be common courtesy to consult parents on such drastic decisions which have been made. How can this measure be called temporary when the extra 30 children will proceed through Dobcroft infants school for the next three years and then onto Dobcroft Junior school and so on. There is nothing temporary about this decision to expand the 2015 intake.

I find it bizarre that this decision has been made when it appears that the areas where expansion is needed is in the Ecclesall infants school area. The representatives of this school have requested expansion due to their required places, yet the council has deemed it fit to ignore this and make a decision to expand Dobcroft where children within the catchment are catered for. Surely this is just a ridiculous solution to the problem at hand. How does this improve children's lives and educational needs and ease the anxiety surrounding applications for school places.

How is Dobcroft School expected to maintain its standard of education with an influx of 30 children which it can not provide for. How is it fair that siblings of children at Ecclesall infants school maybe forced into another school because of rash poor decisions made by the city council.

It may appear that my opinion is somewhat negative, I appreciate that with the right funding, a new school building, additional staff and with no expense spared, this would be a wonderful idea. However none of the aforementioned will be forthcoming. As I previously stated Dobcroft survives on good will, and the desire of parents and teachers to do the best that they can for their children; the pupils of Dobcroft. It is obvious that the city council do not have the same emotion or passion about this school or the pupils, otherwise they would not be making the sweeping decisions that will effect all, in such a negative way.

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I would be interested to know why faith schools such as St Wilfrids are allowed exclusion in this debate? There are other schools such as Clifford and ecclesall which are wanting to expand, therefore I do not see why you are struggling so much to seek out alternative ideas as you highlight below.

Problem solved, unless the grand plan is to shut nether edge school which seems to be becoming more and more apparent causing me great concern as outlined below!!

Problems are made worse by the fact Dobcroft has taken on too many SEN children which take priority over catchment. Whilst I understand there is a need to integrate these children into society is this really the best way of supporting SEN children, how are they cared for and at what cost to non SEN children?

Dobcroft already has classes without TA's as they are so underfunded how are we supposed to give every child including SEN the care and attention they need? Equally I would like to know how many of the current SEN children in the school are from catchment?

It is simply not about children missing out as you state you are looking to relocate children from poor performing schools into my catchment school which being frank unless they are exclusively totley/ecclesall infants you will bring the area, school and house prices down I don't care how SCC try to flower it up! No parent in catchment will thank you for that!

You would not like it if you were in our situation. I would be interested if you have children which school they went to and possibly go to and same for the team making this decision.

How are the health and safety issues being addressed? The stock answer of "30 extra children isn't that much" doesn't apply when you are talking about a building designed as a 2 form entry and is full to bursting.

What provision is being put in place for 2015? It's happening in just over 6 months time the stock answer of "we are working with the school" is insufficient.

As outlined above. The school has twice the national average of Plus Stage SEN children, how are their needs going to be met with a huge loss of intervention space in 2015? This will be catastrophic for these children if it's not addressed.

Why no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcrofts catchment.

Crisis catchments such as Ecclesall and Totley will not be able to access the extra places at Dobcroft, these will be filled with children from closer schools such as Holt House, as they have admissions criteria priority. How is the SCC addressing the immediate crisis in Ecclesall and Totley?

Can we have a copy of the feasibility report?

Why Dobcroft and not Greenhill? It's central, has gross site capacity and is a good school.

Can we see the space per pupil figures for the schools in a two mile radius? We need this information for informed consultation.

Why is the consultation so short? We still do not have all the information? Surely to consult you need information.

Why 2.1 million? Who decided the budget? Will it cover all the expansion needed in buildings already not fit for purpose? How was it calculated?

If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for the 2016 intake?

If the proposal does not go through what will become of the 30 displaced 2015 children?

Instead of being vague please reply with specifics

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I have grave concerns reference for increased traffic if we are looking at wider local areas for catchment of Dobcroft school and increasing capacity. I live next to the Zebra crossing which can be a hazard to get out of at the best of times - Zebra crossing/ Dobcroft Road/ Junction of Silverdale Road. Irresponsible parking increased use of crossing by the school and dog walkers is high risk as it is without the potential to increase. Despite road calming measures cars continue to speed out of the junction or up and down Dobcroft Road. School coaches if they have an away day also park close to the junction of silverdale /dobcroft Road.

My other concern is space within the school increasing capacity will remove indoor space and outdoor space Time and space for all children is imperative for their learning and health and we are removing more and more open space from their young lives where they are safe and secure

You are not only increasing school places but also teachers and support staff however this funding could be lost in the future and subsequently increase class time. Good schools are good because they have space to play and more time for each other to learn social skills 30 pupils is a lot for this age group

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I am writing to protest against the proposed 'temporary' expansion of Dobcroft Infant School, as well as the permanent creation of a 4th class, which would in my view, turn Dobcroft into a so-called 'super-school'. Please consider this email a formal complaint over the way the council is handling the situation. My son is due to start there this year, and I am gravely concerned about the impact this change will have on his education and that of his classmates. The school clearly does not have room for this extra class, and the long term effect will be to drive standards down.

I cannot believe that you have failed to even consider consulting parents on the changes to this year's intake. I understand that you have no legal obligation to do so, but how about your moral obligation to the children and parents in question?

I have read the documentation you have put out, and consider the following questions to be still outstanding:

How are the health and safety issues being addressed? The stock answer of "30 extra children isn't that much" doesn't apply when you are talking about a building designed as a 2 form entry and is full to bursting.

What provision is being put in place for 2015? It's happening in just over 6 months' time the stock answer of "we are working with the school" is insufficient.

The school has twice the national average of Plus Stage SEN children, how are their needs going to be met with a huge loss of intervention space in 2015? This will be catastrophic for these children if it's not addressed.

Why no consultation for 2015? There is no emergency in Dobcroft's catchment.

Crisis catchments such as Ecclesall and Topley will not be able to access the extra places at Dobcroft, these will be filled with children from closer schools such as Holt House, as they



have admissions criteria priority. How is the SCC addressing the immediate crisis in Ecclesall and Totley?

Where is the feasibility report?

How do you respond to the issues raised by the junior school governors?

Why Dobcroft and not Greenhill? It's central, has gross site capacity and is a good school.

Can we see the space per pupil figures for the schools in a two mile radius? We need this information for informed consultation.

Why is the consultation so short? We still do not have all the information? Surely to consult you need information.

Why 2.1 million? Who decided the budget? Will it cover all the expansion needed in buildings already not fit for purpose? How was it calculated?

If the proposal goes through, how will it be ready for the 2016 intake?

If the proposal does not go through, will the 30 extra 2015 children remain at Dobcroft? If not, what will become of them?

I look forward to your speedy response.

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I am a local resident (millhouses lane) and very concerned about the proposed expansion of Dobcroft school. I wish to formally object to this proposal as I am worried about the increased volume of traffic along an already very busy road-particularly at school times.

I understand there are other local schools who are keen to increase their size and number of pupils. This needs to be explored in more detail before pursuing the Dobcroft expansion further.

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I am writing regarding the emergency expansion plans for Dobcroft school in Sept 2015 and the consultation for permanent expansion plans in Sept 2016. I am vehemently opposed to both. Having been to a Governors/Headteachers meeting at Dobcroft infant school yesterday evening, I am astonished by the level of incompetence shown by the council. Consequently, I have decided to take legal action regarding the 'emergency' intake scheduled for Sept 2015. I have a lawyers appointment scheduled for early next week with the aim of sending a 'letter before claim' late next week. I would like to formally request some information before this meeting. I have also contacted the Health and Safety Executive for advice on the provision of basic facilities at the school. My wife has spoken to several MP's, all of whom agree that this course of action is ludicrous. A media campaign has been started and protests are planned outside the school shortly. Leaflet drops to all local residents have started along with parents going 'door to door' to encourage local residents to object to the plans. An online petition has been started and has gathered significant support. Another petition to expand Ecclesall is also running with significant support for this option.

Can you provide me with the name of the person/people that inspected Dobcroft and suggested that an extra 30 children in September was acceptable. I would also like to know how much time was spent at the school and would like to see the feasibility plans for the 2015 intake. I would also like the name of the person/people that signed off on the 2015 decision.

I would like to see the feasibility study for adding 30 new pupils in September. There are not enough basic provisions at the school for the children that are currently there. The toilet facilities are inadequate already. Can you provide the plans on how the toilet facilities are to be upgraded for the extra children? Mobile toilets are not acceptable for children this young and the current toilets are inadequate and in a poor state of repair.

The hall space is too small for 90 children. Can you provide the plan for how to accommodate 120 children for assembly and indeed the plans for lunch time? There are already children opting for 'cold school dinners' as the queue for 'hot dinners' is too long. How is this being addressed?

The library is both an essential learning space and is used for after school clubs and a space for those with extra needs. I have heard that this may be moved to a busy thoroughfare. Do you think this is appropriate? Also, this busy thoroughfare is currently the ICT suite. What is the plan for relocation of the ICT suite? I find it hard to believe that anybody with an interest in education would accept that cramming an ICT suite and library into a busy thoroughfare that connects the school assembly hall and classrooms is an appropriate solution.

Can you provide the council plans and assurances for road safety around Dobcroft for both the 2015 plan and the 2016 consultation? The roads around Dobcroft are incredibly busy at present. With out of catchment children joining the school, the number of cars will increase. What has been done to inform local residents of the proposed plans?

Can you provide the feasibility studies for other schools close by and provide the reasons for not selecting them for the extra class in September 2015? The schools that need extra places are Toley and Ecclesall. Ecclesall are actively campaigning for extra space and buildings. Governors, the Headteacher, and local residents are all supportive. Why is this not a better option? Why is it acceptable to shoehorn 30 extra children into an already overcrowded school when other very good schools are actively encouraging expansion. Why is such a short sighted solution even being considered?

The plan for the extra 30 children in September is not acceptable. All population/catchment data has been available for a long time. None of this information has changed. Can you explain why an 'emergency' intake is necessary when the council has had the data for so long? Basic Health and Safety needs of children as young as 4 are being completely ignored. Impact on the quality of education is being ignored. Road safety issues are being ignored. Overcrowding issues are being ignored. Parents/governors/headteachers (of both Dobcroft and Ecclesall) are being ignored. Your local MP candidate for the area (with whom a group of parents has met) is being ignored. The Deputy Prime Minister is being ignored.

I urge you to reconsider adding 30 extra children in September. Use common sense. Do not use a site that is unsuitable for expansion. Do not follow a plan that attracts widespread condemnation. Listen to those that actively want to expand are are campaigning to do so.

I expect all information to be provided in a prompt manner - I know it must be available as to add 30 children to such an overcrowded school in September, planning must be well under way.

Please can you confirm receipt of this email at your earliest convenience. Thank You.

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I just wanted to take a moment to email you to firstly say thank you for the consultation and secondly to commend you on your proposed solution to our over-breeding in this area. I am guilty as charged (4 kids) but also feel that they each deserve to go to their catchment

school with their friends and that an extra class at this wonderful centre of our community is the only logical solution. This will benefit us all.

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I am uniquely placed to object to the expansion of Dobcroft School as I live directly at the top of the culdesac right next door to school.

I draw your attention to the Dobcroft Governors report which has been uploaded to your website under 'Dobcroft Consultation FAQs' under appendix 1. I wholeheartedly agree with their comprehensive list of objections and am in full support of their accurate assessment of the issues.

Substantial ongoing building works to upgrade the schools providing an additional 9 extra classrooms plus expansion of DASH on an enclosed site in a culdesac location would be noisy, detrimental to the environment and greatly inconvenient. Myself and the house opposite would be greatly affected. It seems that class room numbers will be doubled which is an extraordinarily outrageous idea and will be at the detriment to the school and the neighbouring area in terms of overcrowding and traffic related issues.

If DASH is not able to accomodate the increased pupil numbers we will literally have building work 8 Metres from our boundary and face the threat of being even more overlooked if the building is expanded.

Many people have quoted traffic as an objection to the expansion. Let me enlighten you as to the reality of what that actually entails living next door to the school at present.

Dobcroft already see the top of Pingle Road as their own personal driveway with coaches parking blocking access. More pupils will mean more coaches and more traffic due to extra staff and extra parents out of catchment dropping off.

The reality- NOW- not even after a proposed expansion is that we get parking across our drive which means we can be late for work. We are blocked in and not able to exit our drive at certain times ie, drop off, pick up, and during all of the evening events of both schools. When Discos or parents evenings occur- cars are double parked and all of them drive up the culdesac and are reversing / manouvering in tightly enclosed spaces. It won't be long before a child is knocked down- as happened within the last couple of years twice on Millhouses lane.

There is gridlock- particularly at the Whirlowdale Crescent/Millhouses Lane junction. I avoid at all costs that route out and Button Hill due to Milnhurst and the Catholic school on Millhouses Lane traffic in addition to Dobcroft traffic.

I also avoid Pingle Road - the bottom 2 sections due to cars being parked on both sides making it so tight to negotiate. The only way out is to hope to dash to the right towards Dobcroft road as this seems marginally wider. It is terrifying in case a child steps out as you are so busy avoiding aggressive car drivers and negotiating to avoid gridlock that all of your concentration is on that.

I must be home on my driveway for 3.10 pm or due to traffic I have to abandon my car well away from my house and walk the rest of the way.

For the times mentioned there would be no possibility of Emergency Services access which is truly a terrifying state of affairs.

Where was the forward planning in projected student numbers back when Abbeydale Grange was sold off I expect for a vast profit. The land could have been used to build a new school on a main access route and a central location there. Tesco have a huge plot of land for sale on Abbeydale Road- why are you not considering that for siting a new school?

At Dobcroft there is insufficient parking for current staff- expansion would push more and more staff on to double parking on the road. Thus adding to the existing problems of access.

I have read the ridiculous concept of the potential loss of Dobcroft playing field either to build on or the heinous idea of tarmacking over the waterlogged field so as to just accommodate the huge increase from roughly 370 children to 840 children. This would be an environmentally damaging idea- the waterlogging would pass then down the hill directly affecting my property and Pingle Road as well.

What I most object to and have spoken with Sylvia Dunkley the Lib. Dem. candidate and 2 members of the council up at the Dobcroft consultation- is that all of this seems a **done deal**. Not even the local residents had any idea that you didn't need to consult to already confirm addition of a class per year onto the infant school. The report written by the council is so woolly in points recommending Dobcroft as a site that it came up with very little over the concept of it being a "Central site". There doesn't seem to be a feasible reason why it shouldn't be Topley, Ecclesall, Clifford, or some of the other schools mentioned in your report.

I favour the swapping of the Ecclesall Infant and Junior sites in order to facilitate expansion of school numbers. In addition- why is Topley not being looked at closer as it is on an open access road with space around it? Why is the Catholic school on Millhouses lane not being looked at- why is it right that they should operate an exclusionist religious policy and avoid expansion??

To turn the 2 Dobcroft schools into huge schools as is proposed in this preposterous report is clearly ridiculous in relation to the enclosed culdesac site and the existing gridlock. Really what are you thinking??

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I write to state my objections to the proposed expansion of Dobcroft infant and Junior School to a 4 class (120) intake.

Whilst not putting into doubt the fabulous job all the staff do to make Dobcroft an outstanding school, I feel that moving to a 120 intake each year will place extraordinary pressure on the physical space in addition to the ability to foster a whole school nurturing ethos.

A prime concern arises from being a mother of a child with Special Education Needs. My child requires significant extra support, break out areas within school for meetings with external agencies e.g. Autism team visits, Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language etc. She also requires space outside of the classroom to recover from periods of anxiety and learning spaces without the sensory overload that the classroom gives her. These spaces will be squeezed, minimal or lost completely with the proposals.

Dobcroft is known as an inclusive environment for children with SEN and in fact has

a significantly higher than the national average of children at school action plus ( info from document from appeals process that argued why no further children above 90 could be accommodated in Dobcroft Foundation as at September 2014). I have no doubt that by increasing the number to 120 intake (when it is known that the current number in Dobcroft catchment itself is insufficient to fill this number of spaces) will lead to an influx of parents with children with SEN applying from outside of catchment. This will increase pressure on an already failing system to apportion appropriate funding to schools in affluent areas with high levels of SEN. It will also mean that more breakout areas not less are required.

These proposals will impact detrimentally on both my children but primarily the one with SEN.

I feel it is an ill thought out decision which is driven by costs / budgets and not the priority and needs of the children in Dobcroft catchment and those children in other catchments who have a right to have their education delivered at their local school.

There are a myriad of other reasons why this proposal is inappropriate including:

- It does not solve the issue in hand. You will just get a greater influx into the Ecclesall catchment as parents will prefer their children to be in a two class intake and it will mean you have an even greater number of children you are turning down to their catchment school and offering Dobcroft as an alternative.

- The site itself may be large enough but a total redevelopment of whole school not just foundation space would be required and not adhoc extra temporary buildings / shoehorning into the current space (e.g. Proposed use of library as a classroom).

- Toilet space is inadequate (or only just adequate) now, a further 30 children are being added next year with no change to this provision. Does the ratio of toilets to children falls within the National guidelines?

- Road traffic / safety is a major issue and the vast majority of extra intake above the current 90 in future years will undoubtedly be travelling by car as Dobcroft will not be their local school.

- As parents we are unable to comment on feasibility of buildings as plans have not been provided and we have no detail as to what green space etc we are going to lose. How is it possible therefore to have meaningful consultation?

- Playground space is extremely tight now and will be a real health and safety issues / an impossibility for some children like mine with SEN to be able to cope with. Currently there is a nurture club run at lunchtime for children like mine who struggle in the playground. This is held in the library space which will no longer be available - where are these things going to be accommodated in the future?

- The hall space will be wholly inadequate to accommodate:

- whole school activity

- P.E. sessions for all classes twice a week in winter

- lunchtimes with 360 children between the ages 4 and 7 having to be pushed through a cramped, loud, intimidating space within an hour (virtually all of whom are now accessing hot school dinners following the recent changes).

Fundamentally I disagree with an intake of 120 at Primary entry. The level of opposition to these plans is extreme and I urge the council to reconsider / more extensively consult on these matters with parents from all catchments involved.

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I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed expansion at Dobcroft infant school for 2015/16 and the potential for this to be made a permanent expansion.

The 2015 expansion appears to be poorly thought out in terms of providing adequate space for the extra children. The communal areas are already struggling to accommodate the existing numbers of children and this becomes particularly apparent to me at drop off and pick up times. How will events such as school plays, discos, assemblies take place with an extra 30 children in the mix? If it is not possible for whole year groups to get together at any one time this will inevitably change the atmosphere of the school and will also take away valuable experiences for the children attending.

I also think it is important to consider where the extra places are most needed. Having seen the numbers it seems to make more sense to do expansion work at Ecclesall Infants school or in Tottle? Considering the disruption that will be caused at Dobcroft schools (carrying through the junior school regardless of whether the expansion is temporary or permanent given that the extra 30 pupils will continue through the schools) it is crucial that the expansion is at least providing places where they are most needed?

On a more personal note, Dobcroft Infants school is already large for a primary school. My daughter started in September 2014 and even with an intake of 90 children I feel it has been difficult for her to get used to the sheer volume of people, particularly at drop off and pick up times when there are children and parents trying to find space in small cloakrooms, toilet areas etc. As mentioned previously, important events such as school plays, discos, assemblies etc may become unfeasible with such large numbers of pupils and this will be a big loss to the children and take away the sense of community that Dobcroft school currently has.

I hope you will consider the concerns of the parents carefully. I, like most other parents, do accept that a solution needs to be found, but the concerns raised do have serious implications and need to be looked at before any expansion goes ahead.

As a local resident and parent of a child at Dobcroft School I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed expansion to this school.

Whilst I appreciate the desire by parents to get their children into a good school in their local area, I feel there are a number of reasons why the proposed expansion to Dobcroft Infant and Junior School should not go ahead.

- Firstly as a resident on Dobcroft Road I do not feel that the road network around the school can take extra traffic. Cars are already parked along Dobcroft Road as far up as Cortworth Road and Whirlowdale Crescent, Millhouses Road and Pingle Road are heavily congested. An extra 210 children (many I imagine from outside the current catchment area so more likely to travel in cars to and from school) will cause a significant increase in traffic in this area and subsequently an increased risk to those children that do travel to and from school on foot.
- There are a number of schools in close proximity to each other in this area – Dobcroft Infant and Junior School, Saint Wilfreds RC Primary School and Mylnhurst Catholic Preparatory School and Nursery. The volume of traffic created by three schools and a nursery so close to each other is already dangerously high.
- The alleyway connecting Dobcroft Road and Millhouses Road to Dobcroft Schools is narrow and overgrown. At drop off and pick up times this alleyway is already overcrowded and it is difficult to overtake should a child run in front. An extra 210 children at Dobcroft Schools would increase the number of adults and children using this alleyway putting parents, school children and siblings at risk of being hurt.
- I understand most, if not all of the extra 30 children offered places at Dobcroft School in September 2015, will be coming from outside

Dobcroft's current catchment area. Should extra places not be created at schools closer to these children's homes? There are schools that have only one class (Totley Primary) or two classes (Ecclesall Infants) per year group so why can they not expand? It is these areas that are reported as being over prescribed for 2015/2016. Dobcroft School is already one of the largest schools in Sheffield with three classes per year group. It is intimidating enough for a four year old child going to a school of this size without making it even bigger.

- There are schools in the south of the city (Hallam Primary and Nether Green Infants) that have foundation stage classes of less than 30 children. If there is a shortage of school places in the area can these schools not increase their pupil numbers to bring them in line with other schools that have 30 children (or more) in many classes.

- Dobcroft infant school was originally built for two classes per year group but has in the past been increased to three. Two of the extra classrooms were created by porta-cabins at the back of the school hall. There are no toilets for these two classrooms (and no extra toilets being provided for the extra 30 children starting in September 2015). Was this considered before the latest increase in pupil numbers? Even if extra toilets are built with future expansion to the school the playground can not be extended. To add more children to a space that was originally designed for half that number, will result in more play time related problems and injuries. Children will not have enough space to run around and play safely.
- Where will the new classrooms be built? On the playgrounds and sport field? The Infant School playground, as I have mentioned, is already too small for the number of children at the school and the thought of losing green sports field space to allow extra buildings is diabolical. Does the council view the importance of physical activity so low that they are willing to reduce the school's already limited, outdoor space?
- The availability of the school hall for PE and the ICT suite is already stretched to capacity meaning each class can only use them for a limited time each week. Is this going to be reduced even further with the addition of an extra class in September 2015? One letter I have received says the council will pay to build a new combined library and ICT area before September 2015 but where is this new building going to go?
- Dobcroft Infant School currently allows one hour twenty minutes for serving lunch. This is already longer than most schools that allow one hour. How will lunch times be managed with extra children if a bigger hall and kitchen is not built? I have heard that a three sitting, staggered lunch time may be considered which would mean some children eating their lunch either very early or very late in the school day. A hungry, young child is not conducive to effective learning and if children are

playing whilst others are in class the noise created will be highly disruptive.

- Whilst the information provided says that every effort will be made to avoid any impact on current pupils, severe disruption to our children's early school life and learning will be inevitable with the extensive building works that are required to extend these two schools.

I think it is disgusting that a fourth foundation stage class has been created for September 2015 without consultation. I disagree that an extra class can be accommodated "without significant difficulty" and "without adversely impacting everyday school life". The lack of toilets alone poses an enormous health and safety risk and the potential loss of library facilities to allow for the extra classroom is disgraceful. Please can you send me a copy of the feasibility study that was performed supporting this temporary increase in pupil numbers?

I urge the council and school organisation team to reconsider their options before making a permanent increase in pupil numbers at Dobcroft School. I can not believe that there is not another appropriate, financially viable and most important, safe solution.

I eagerly await your response.



We are writing to object to the planned increase in class numbers at Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools. We have 2 children at Dobcroft Infants School and a third who will start in Sept 2016. We object for the following reasons:

1 – the outdoor play space is already very limited and crowded given the number of children already at the school. They are not allowed to play football or other ball games very often due to lack of space. We do not see how more children can be packed into this small space without it being to the detriment of them all.

2 – The playground supervisors find it difficult to observe and supervise the children during play times already, and this would be even more difficult if the playground becomes more crowded.

3 – the school hall, ICT suite, library and the other communal facilities are over-stretched as it is – the school finds it difficult to get all the children through the hall for lunch, and we cannot see how they can prepare and serve dinner adequately for even more children.

4 – DASH (the before and after school club) uses the library for their club, and are unsure where they will be relocated to – or even if they will be allowed to continue functioning. A lot of the children (including mine) are used to going to DASH and it would be unsettling for them – and difficult for us as working parents – if this facility was not allowed to continue. We believe the council find it is 'not their responsibility' to cater for out of school hours care. This attitude is uncaring and demonstrates that all they are interested in is fulfilling their legal responsibilities without genuinely looking out for the best interests of our children.

Given that other schools such as Clifford and Ecclesall would like to expand, we can only think that the council is looking for the easiest and cheapest way forward for them, rather than the one that is best for the children of Sheffield in the longer term.

Dear Mr. Melrose,

Dobrocht Infant & Dobrocht Junior School -  
Consultation on extra places

My wife and I have resided at this address for some 32 years and having read your letter of 16 February 2015 regarding the above concerns we greatly regret the proposed significant increase in the number of pupils of which many will not be from our catchment area. Our rear garden backs up to the School grounds separated by our 6 foot high brick wall. On our side of the wall we have a patio area where we could sit, relax and enjoy drinks but in 1999 this all changed when mobile classrooms were erected. Up to this point there had been a steady increase in pupils at the school and in the main only average noise and disturbance for us and the surrounding property owners as obviously the children were well controlled. The school had a very good reputation and success rate supported by the immediate locality.

Enclosed for your interest are copies of letters which our neighbours at No. 122, the Harpess, and ourselves signed complaining at the siting of mobile classrooms. These units were for use by the after-school activities club (D.A.S.H.). We were now faced not only with normal school hours but children playing in the grounds awaiting to be collected by parents. Everything seemed to coincide at this time, we began to have periods of piercing screaming and noisy children playing in what the school and D.A.S.H. <sup>said</sup> were 'no go' areas. One mobile appears to be used for music lessons and sometimes for long periods there was monotonous beating of a drum with no variation in volume or rhythm - most stressful. We would have thought that supervision and control of the children during and after school hours to be paramount. It did appear to us that the Head and Staff were

at full stretch to maintain standards.

You are now proposing to dramatically increase the numbers of pupils at the school in the next 3 years from within and outside our catchment area. It is our belief that usage and the development to such extent will be most detrimental and offensive to the surrounding property owners, we have a right to be considered with such a huge change.

The school would not appear to have sufficient land for major extension and for the pupils to enjoy not only adequate <sup>schooling</sup> but space for recreation also, so much for the national concern about obesity in our children.

Whilst there are plans to supply more teachers, according to the media (School Inspectors etc.) quality is lacking which could affect the present standards. Parking spaces for new staff will also be necessary. Our opinion is that the proposals will lead to overcrowding, lack of control and falling standards to the detriment of pupils and those in charge, only recently the Minister for Education and the Prime Minister have been critical of the teaching profession.

We have noticed a decline in the quality of this area, once one of Sheffield's most respectable and sought after locality. Objectives should be to enhance areas and facilities not worsen them and your proposals appear to be of negative reaction. We also wonder why the Abbeydale Road school was pulled down.

At school times, both mornings and afternoons, Dobcroft Road, Whitdale Crescent, Silverdale Road and immediate areas are already a nightmare. Cars are having to park well away from the school entrances, on grass verges and blocking property driveways. With vehicles parked all up Dobcroft Road and on verges getting in or out of ones driveway is fraught with danger, vision is obstructed totally. One stream of traffic in the middle of the road is possible and the frustration for drivers is evident. Vehicles other than school traffic is a problem including local buses which are hindered and those are other school buses going up and down picking up or dropping off more senior pupils. Pupils from other schools also walk to school. We have noted parents of junior school allowing their children to use scooters and older children kicking foot buses. Some even using skate boards on pavements and the road.

At the Whitrodale junction with Dobcroft I have often pulled up to allow parents and children cross the road. Outside our house are road calming humps which serve little purpose only elderly drivers slow down and then their gaze is fixed on the humps rather than the road and pedestrians. As things stand introducing more children from wherever will create mayhem. Dobcroft Road is already a disgrace with potholes, bumps, uneven surfaces and pavements are no better uneven, rise and falls, and for those people with disabilities or pensioners, difficult to walk upon.

It is hoped proposals will be declined and planning permission not needed but if application is made then serious consideration should be given to any building development in view of the water shed which runs from the school towards Dobcroft properties. Any obstruction to the flow could well affect buildings if the flow changes course. Next aware of one property having serious problems, admittedly some time ago.

I hope our comments and views will be taken on board and that we will be kept well informed of developments

Yours Sincerely

Re: Potential extra pupils at Dobcroft School

Dear Schools Organisation Team,

I live on Derriman Drive, the houses of which back onto Dobcroft School. When I drive to work in the morning, parents' cars are double parked at the bottom of Silverdale Road where it enters Dobcroft Road to access the school. They are also parked round both corners and into the end of Derriman Drive. This is not only illegal but also extremely dangerous to children and other road users. However, no-one ever gets a parking ticket, to my knowledge and nothing has been done to address this problem.

When I pull out into Silverdale Road, I do so blind and taking my life in my hands. I have also, on occasion, been subjected to abuse from parents when trying to access my own road in the afternoon.

Increasing pupil numbers would only exacerbate an already bad problem to an unacceptable degree.

Yours faithfully,

Dear Sirs,

Re Extra Places for Dobcroft Junior School

My wife and I (both in our eighties) object strongly to your plans to increase primary school places for Dobcroft Infant School, with all the inevitable horrendous increase in motor cars twice daily.

As you will already be aware, the residents of Millhouses Lane, many of whom are elderly, are already subjected to extremely difficult traffic situations at school starting and finishing times, which makes it often almost impossible sometimes to drive into or out of our own home drives safely.

The inevitable increase in traffic will also carry a significant, and probably hazardous increase in inhalation of the toxic fumes emitted by the car exhausts. As already pointed out, many of the residents of the Lane are elderly and could well have pre-existing lung problems, and the increased levels of toxic fumes from the increase in traffic flow may well constitute a serious health risk.

In the light of these serious considerations I hope that the intention of increasing school places in Millhouses will be dropped

Yours sincerely,

## **Petitions**

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The following section contains copies of two petitions compiled by parents from Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools and Clifford CR Infant School.

Please note: Comments in this section have not been anonymised as they have been submitted to us having already been posted on [www.change.org](http://www.change.org) in a public forum.

## Petition

Help stop Sheffield City Council from squeezing extra classes of pupils into the already overcrowded  
Dobcroft Infant & Junior Schools

Name	City	State	Zip Code	Country
Dobcroft Parents Against Expansion				United Kingdom
Sarah Jones	Sheffield	England	S11 9rs	United Kingdom
Jodie Thake	Sheffield	England	S119LP	United Kingdom
David Morley	Sheffield	England	s7 2qs	United Kingdom
Nikki Crookes		England	S7 2LD	United Kingdom
Emma Thackeray	Sheffield	England	S7 2LX	United Kingdom
Vicky darker	Sheffield	England	s11 9nn	United Kingdom
Tony Norman	Sheffield	England	S11 9JN	United Kingdom
Sarah Dale	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
ioan jones	Sheffield	England	s11 9rs	United Kingdom
Katie Haigh	Sheffield	England	S7 2LS	United Kingdom
Shalini's Watkinson	Sheffield	England	S119JL	United Kingdom
tammy simmons	Brinsworth	England	s60 5ne	United Kingdom
Helen Higgins		England	S7 2LP	United Kingdom
Nadine Cain	Sheffield	England	S11 9JN	United Kingdom
Sarah Wilson	Sheffield	England	S11 9HD	United Kingdom
John Dale	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Lisa wragg	Sheffield	England	s17 3qr	United Kingdom
Jenny Gallacher	Dronfield	England	S18 8PA	United Kingdom
Nicola Medd	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
chris rothery	Edinburgh	Scotland	EH76RX	United Kingdom
Liliana Thomas	Sheffield	England	S11 9PN	United Kingdom
Xavier Thomas	Sheffield	England	S11 9PN	United Kingdom
Suzanne Wheatley	Sheffield	England	S11 9PN	United Kingdom
Sam Thomas	Sheffield	England	S11 9PN	United Kingdom
Loretta Chantry-Groves	Sheffield	England	S11 9RA	United Kingdom
Kathryn Forrester	Sheffield	England	s11 9hq	United Kingdom
Hannah Edwards	Sheffield	England	S119RA	United Kingdom
Jane Bendrey	Sheffield	England	S 11 9 HH	United Kingdom
Abi stevens	Sheffield	England	s11 9rs	United Kingdom
Louise Kent	Sheffield	England	S11 9he	United Kingdom
Suzanne Wilde	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
Ben Higgins	Sheffield	England	S7 2LP	United Kingdom
Andy Wilson	Sheffield	England	S7 2gj	United Kingdom
Paul Darker	Sheffield	England	S11 9NN	United Kingdom
Brenda Jones	Thorner	England	LS14 3JD	United Kingdom
Nita White	Sheffield	England	S7 2DQ	United Kingdom
jonathan platts	Sheffield	England	s11 9nb	United Kingdom
Caitlin Waters	Sheffield	England	S7 2LY	United Kingdom
shraddha verma	Sheffield	England	s72le	United Kingdom
Amy Clark	Sheffield	England	S11 9he	United Kingdom
lindsey briggs		England	s41 8qq	United Kingdom
Laura Hayes	Bakewell	England	De45 1fZ	United Kingdom



Jessica Sasse	Icklesham	England	Tn364bx	United Kingdom
Simon McCabe	Sheffield	England	S11 9NJ	United Kingdom
Rachel Briggs	Sheffield	England	S7 2LW	United Kingdom
Clare Samuelson	Sheffield	England	S72LW	United Kingdom
Jenny Sheehan	Sheffield	England	S17 3NA	United Kingdom
Candice Wang	Sheffield	England	S11 9jg	United Kingdom
Robert Samuelson	Sheffield	England	S72LW	United Kingdom
Maria Clayton	Herne Hill	England	SE24 0BQ	United Kingdom
Michelle McCabe	Edinburgh	Scotland	EH12 8RG	United Kingdom
Sarah King	Sheffield	England	S7 2LB	United Kingdom
Chengji Lin		England	s11 9he	United Kingdom
Karen Courtney	Sheffield	England	S7 2HE	United Kingdom
Sara Evans	Sheffield	England	s17 3gh	United Kingdom
sue simpson	Sheffield	England	s8 7be	United Kingdom
Mark Stewart	Aberdeen	Scotland	AB124LY	United Kingdom
Mark Watkinson	Sheffield	England	S11 9JL	United Kingdom
Justine Head	Sheffield	England	S7 2lt	United Kingdom
Sam Jain	Wakefield		WF1	United Kingdom
Luis Vilo	Neuquen		8300	Argentina
Anna coupland	Sheffield	England	s7 2nh	United Kingdom
Rafiat Lagundoye	Sheffield	England	s11 9JL	United Kingdom
Satish Saxena	Sheffield	England	S11 9BR	United Kingdom
Caroline Vaughan	Sheffield	England	S7 2ls	United Kingdom
Ruth Clayton	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Enid Hirst	Sheffield	England	S7 2HF	United Kingdom
Jane Carson			7630-489	Portugal
Amanda Knapton		England	IP14 6BZ	United Kingdom
Laura Di Bona	Sheffield	England	s7 2ls	United Kingdom
Anna Cantrell	Sheffield	England	S11 9JN	United Kingdom
Elizabeth Borland	Sheffield	England	S11 9LH	United Kingdom
Simone Matthews	Gänserndorf			Austria
Caroline Quincey	Sheffield	England	S72LU	United Kingdom
sally stubbs	Sheffield	England	s119nr	United Kingdom
Dominic Hayes	Bakewell	England	DE451FZ	United Kingdom
Peter Thompson	Sheffield	England	s11 9HA	United Kingdom
Amy Bouchier	Sheffield	England	S11 9HG	United Kingdom
Ben Stone	Sheffield	England	S11 9HE	United Kingdom
Vicki Peacock	Sheffield	England	S7 2na	United Kingdom
Julia Leatherland	sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Lucy Atherton	Sheffield	England	S7 2LY	United Kingdom
Jane Huws	Sheffield	England	S11 9HY	United Kingdom
Angela Larkin	Sheffield	England	S11 9HR	United Kingdom
Dominic Britt	Sheffield	England	s7 2LY	United Kingdom
Christopher Medd	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
Charlotte Wardle	Sheffield	England	S11 9HS	United Kingdom
ben ablett	Sheffield	England	S7 2LE	United Kingdom
steve barker	Sheffield	England	s11 9nj	United Kingdom
Deborah Mullens	Sheffield	England	S11 9hj	United Kingdom
Gail Cox	Sheffield	England	S7 2ND	United Kingdom

Catherine Leaf		England	S119HA	United Kingdom
Nicola Leach	Sheffield	England	S7 2LJ	United Kingdom
Matt Hanberry	Sheffield			United States
michael joyce	Sheffield	England	s118xs	United Kingdom
Helen Winter	Sheffield	England	S11 9NP	United Kingdom
Katie Oliver	Sheffield	England	S7 2IZ	United Kingdom
Stephanie Glover	Sheffield	England	S117TX	United Kingdom
Sarah Hakes	Sheffield	England	S11 9RQ	United Kingdom
Gavin Blagden	Seaham	England	SR7 0JQ	United Kingdom
Ann Brewster	Sheffield	England	S7 2 LL	United Kingdom
Patsy Kelly	Warrington	England	WA5 9SJ	United Kingdom
Dylan Hughes	Sheffield	England	s11 9PR	United Kingdom
Anne Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2LX	United Kingdom
Robert Middleton	Sheffield	England	S11 9NT	United Kingdom
Sophie Mellor	Sheffield	England	S11 9NR	United Kingdom
Kathryn Fagg		England	S10 4gg	United Kingdom
Gail Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2GA	United Kingdom
Jason Stubbs	Sheffield	England	S11 9NR	United Kingdom
Sarah Disney	Sheffield	England	s11 9nj	United Kingdom
Debra warren	Sheffield	England	s11 9ny	United Kingdom
Ann Wheatley	Sheffield	England	S10 3TQ	United Kingdom
Sarah Durrant	Sheffield	England	S11 9HN	United Kingdom
Jean Hayes	Sheffield	England	S8 0EQ	United Kingdom
Helen Mark	Sheffield	England	S11 7JB	United Kingdom
Donna Harrison	Sheffield	England	S72gy	United Kingdom
Jade Rose	Sheffield	England	S72HE	United Kingdom
Laura Jeffery	Sheffield	England	S11 9jl	United Kingdom
Richard Woodward	Sheffield	England	S119lp	United Kingdom
Zoe Hollings	Sheffield	England	S72he	United Kingdom
Bethany Marney	Sheffield	England	S11 9JB	United Kingdom
Laurien Smith	Sheffield	England	S72ga	United Kingdom
Neil warren	Sheffield	England	s11 9ny	United Kingdom
Ann Cockram	Sheffield	England	S10 5rz	United Kingdom
Louise Hilton-Tapp	Sheffield	England	S11 9HR	United Kingdom
Laura Whitworth	Sheffield	England	S11 9nr	United Kingdom
Mark Howe	Sheffield	England	S7 2ly	United Kingdom
Rhonwen McCormack	Manchester	England	M19 3NR	United Kingdom
Sally marshall	Sheffield	England	s7 2nd	United Kingdom
Craig Burton	Sheffield	England	S11 9rn	United Kingdom
Deborah Niven	Sheffield	England	S11 9NT	United Kingdom
Richard Marshall	Sheffield	England	s7 2nd	United Kingdom
Carl Taylor	Sheffield	England	S7 2LJ	United Kingdom
Allen Broomhead	Sheffield	England	S7 2ND	United Kingdom
Gillian murphy	Sheffield	England	s11 9ng	United Kingdom
Sam Royle		England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Mark Royle	Sheffield			United States
josee shaw	Sheffield	England	S8 0fa	United Kingdom
Rachel Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2gz	United Kingdom
kirstie ekwubiri	Halfway	England	s20 8gj	United Kingdom

Frances Ryall	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Dylan Hughed	Sheffield	England	S11 9PR	United Kingdom
Eamonn Cox	Sheffield	England	S7 2ND	United Kingdom
Nathan Smith	Everton	England	Dn10 5bl	United Kingdom
Jorja gill	Sheffield	England	s11 7ax	United Kingdom
Barbara Stuchfield	Sheffield	England	S11 9HP	United Kingdom
Susan O'Shea	Sheffield	England	S11 9JE	United Kingdom
Julie garner	Killamarsh	England	S21 1jr	United Kingdom
Ewan stuchfield	Sheffield	England	s11 9RE	United Kingdom
Kevin Rowntree	Sheffield	England	S7 2LU	United Kingdom
Sarah Holmes	Sheffield	England	S11 9NT	United Kingdom
adam sumner	Sheffield	England	s11 9la	United Kingdom
ruth sumner	Sheffield	England	s11 9la	United Kingdom
Hannah Barker	Sheffield	England	S119NJ	United Kingdom
Gasan Chetty	Sheffield	England	S11 9PW	United Kingdom
Philip mellor	Sheffield	England	S119NR	United Kingdom
Paul Niven	Sheffield	England	S119NT	United Kingdom
Fenetta Snow	Sheffield	England	S7 2NB	United Kingdom
Jan Hughes	Mosborough	England	S20 5PE	United Kingdom
Alison Chetty	Sheffield	England	S11 9PW	United Kingdom
Claire Ashmore	Sheffield	England	S11 9NA	United Kingdom
Benjamin Ashmore	Sheffield	England	S11 9NA	United Kingdom
Sam Lin	谢菲尔德	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Graham Smith	谢菲尔德	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Judith Jones	Sheffield	England	S11 7GD	United Kingdom
Janine Hilton	Sheffield	England	S129la	United Kingdom
Julie saunby	Sheffield	England	s72na	United Kingdom
Jacquelyn Goddard	Sheffield	England	S11 7GE	United Kingdom
Gill Peacock	Dronfield	England	S18 8QZ	United Kingdom
Kate Eskholme	Derbyshire	England	s431ql	United Kingdom
Louise Engledow	sheffield	England	s7 2LH	United Kingdom
Alexandra Delamere- Bintcliffe	Huddersfield	England	HD80GT	United Kingdom
David Evans	Sheffield	England	S72he	United Kingdom
Shona Davison	Sheffield	England	S11 9QR	United Kingdom
Ken Hepplestone	Sheffield	England	S11 9nn	United Kingdom
Rachel Evans	Sheffield	England	S119sf	United Kingdom
Rosalind McTiernan	Kirkburton	England	HD8 0NP	United Kingdom
Jill rackham	Sheffield	England	S11 7LB	United Kingdom
Dianne Ward	Inkersall	England	S43 3GG	United Kingdom
Jane Avgousti	Sheffield	England	S119HN	United Kingdom
Kerry Davison	Sheffield	England	S11 9LP	United Kingdom
Christopher Campbell	Sheffield	England	S11 9NR	United Kingdom
Andrew Leigh	Sheffield	England	S21 1HF	United Kingdom
Jon Howe	Leeds	England	Ls124un	United Kingdom
Fiona wellington	Sheffield	England	s72ly	United Kingdom
Patti Kluczewski	Sheffield	England	S11 9hh	United Kingdom
Quentin Jendrzewski	Sheffield	England	S11 7EJ	United Kingdom
faye cockram	Sheffield	England	s10 5rz	United Kingdom

Lynda Leigh	Killamarsh	England	S21 1HF	United Kingdom
Enid MacNeill	Sheffield	England	S7 2LA	United Kingdom
anne avgousti	Sheffield	England	s11 9ae	United Kingdom
Andrew Gibson	Sheffield	England	S6 4RD	United Kingdom
Catherine Kelland	Sheffield	England	S11 9RH	United Kingdom
Christopher Kelland	Bristol	England	BS16 4QS	United Kingdom
Sarah Vernon	Sheffield	England	S11 9sp	United Kingdom
amanda russell	sheffield	England	s11 7pe	United Kingdom
sylvia goring	North Shields	England	ne304le	United Kingdom
Jo white	Sheffield	England	s7 2gp	United Kingdom
Paul Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2GA	United Kingdom
Sharon McKeown	Richmond	England	TW10 6AD	United Kingdom
Nik Seth	Sheffield	England	S11 8RY	United Kingdom
Louise Jones	Sheffield	England	S11 9FT	United Kingdom
Alison McCloy	Ilkley	England	LS29 9QP	United Kingdom
nicholas kelland	Sheffield	England	S11 9SD	United Kingdom
Chris Hart			6725	Australia
Emma Green	Sheffield	England	S80GY	United Kingdom
colin chapman	Sheffield	England	s119jn	United Kingdom
melissa windle	Sheffield	England	S11 7PJ	United Kingdom
Elizabeth Priest	sheffield	England	s11 7pb	United Kingdom
Katie Dyke	Sheffield	England	S11 9FW	United Kingdom
Michelle Pedlow	Leiden			Netherlands
Sharon Prasanto	Sheffield	England	S7 2lr	United Kingdom
Clare Cryan	Sheffield	England	S11 9HF	United Kingdom
Joe Wilde	Onchan			Isle of Man
Tracy Favell	Dronfield Newcastle upon Tyne	England	s18 1uw	United Kingdom
Caroline Tompkins	Tyne	England	NE3 4XD	United Kingdom
Sally Sequerra	Sheffield	England	S7 2ND	United Kingdom
Julie Alexander-Hudson	Sheffield	England	s7 2qt	United Kingdom
Hilary Foster	Sheffield	England	S7 2GL	United Kingdom
JO Roe	Sheffield		Eckington	United Kingdom
M Bower	Sheffield	England	S11 9LJ	United Kingdom
Eileen Bendrey	Bristol	England	BS16 2RT	United Kingdom
Sam Sequerra	Sheffield	England	S7 2ND	United Kingdom
Nicky King	Sheffield	England	S7 2NB	United Kingdom
Neetu Jain	Shadwell	England	LS17 8JZ	United Kingdom
Anna Kirkman	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Nicola Platt	Sheffield	England	S11 9NE	United Kingdom
Jennifer Carling-Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2QS	United Kingdom
Kate Bradley	Sheffield	England	S7 2lu	United Kingdom
Suzanne Moore	Sheffield	England	S11 8UA	United Kingdom
Jo Egan	Sheffield	England	S7 2QP	United Kingdom
Stephen Hall	Sheffield	England	S7 2LJ	United Kingdom
Michelle allen	Sheffield	England	s11 9rq	United Kingdom
Frieda Wingfield	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
vanessa hunt	Sheffield	England	s7 2gj	United Kingdom
Sue Waterall	Sheffield	England	s7 2lq	United Kingdom

Gail Thompson	Sheffield	England	S11 9 RS	United Kingdom
Jake Coupland	Sheffield	England	S7 2NH	United Kingdom
Philip Birkinshaw	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
Francesca Birkinshaw	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
ade kentzer	Sheffield	England	S11 9LA	United Kingdom
Alexandra McNeil	Airdrie	England	S40	United Kingdom
Matthew Davison	Sheffield	England	S11 9lp	United Kingdom
Andy Roe	Eckington	England	S21 4HY	United Kingdom
Alistair Haigh	Sheffield	England	S7 2LS	United Kingdom
Heather Bulfin	Belfast	Ireland	BT10 0FY	United Kingdom
Simon holmshaw	Dronfield	England	S182ep	United Kingdom
Jamie Reay	London	England	N4 3RA	United Kingdom
Gareth Ropke	Sheffield	England	s11 9HA	United Kingdom
Melanie Hemsall	Sheffield	England	S11 9he	United Kingdom
Sarah Stone	Sheffield	England	S11 9HE	United Kingdom
John Swain	Sheffield	England	S11 9lp	United Kingdom
Alexander McCabe	Paisley	Scotland	PA2 7SE	United Kingdom
Rachael martin	Sheffield	England	s11 9JN	United Kingdom
Joanna barnes	Saint Helier			Jersey
Will Rodbard	Beaconsfield	England	HP9 2LD	United Kingdom
iain mayhew	Sheffield	England	s72lw	United Kingdom
sarah mayhew	Sheffield	England	s7 2lw	United Kingdom
Alison Hunt	Sheffield	England	S7 2GG	United Kingdom
Rachael Jones	Sheffield	England	S11 9LF	United Kingdom
Anthony Disney	Sheffield	England	s11 9nj	United Kingdom
Helen stanley	Sheffield	England	s11 9rb	United Kingdom
Shehzad Yousaf	Sheffield	England	S11 9HP	United Kingdom
Kathryn Yousaf	Sheffield	England	S11 9HP	United Kingdom
Gemma Drydale	Sheffield	England	S72lj	United Kingdom
Helen Everatt	Sheffield	England	s7 2lx	United Kingdom
Kathryn Pickford	Sheffield		Ecclesall	United Kingdom
Victoria Blackburn	Sheffield	England	s7 2gj	United Kingdom
Lindsay Field	Sheffield	England	s7 2lz	United Kingdom
Heather Johnson	Sheffield	England	S72gj	United Kingdom
Ed X	谢菲尔德	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Steven Jackson	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
John Petty	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Sam Lin	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Linda McLoughlin	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Ed McLoughlin	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Steve Maccarthy	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Mike Pattore	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
John Ibbetson	Sheffield	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
Lisa Sayles	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
M Suwais	Sheffield	England	S7 2LT	United Kingdom
D Lowe	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
G Egan	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
D Collings	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom

G Tindall	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
J Tindall	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
Debra Deyhue	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
Chris Wilson	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
Jacob Fraser	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
Simon Parry	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
B Fildes	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
J Thomas	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Chris Fildes	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Ali Fildes	Sheffield	England	S7 2HB	United Kingdom
Mike Kidder	Sheffield	England	S7 2LS	United Kingdom
P Richardson	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
P Christopher	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
jill valentine	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
Mollie Valentine	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
M Walker	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
P Walker	Sheffield		S7	United Kingdom
GAYNOR PYRAH	Bradford	England	BD21PX	United Kingdom
karen lambert	Sheffield	England	s7 2nb	United Kingdom
Mike Hughes	Binton	England	Cv379tn	United Kingdom
James Blackburn	Sheffield	England	S7 2GJ	United Kingdom
Louisa giblin	Sheffield	England	s72ll	United Kingdom
Susan Hornsby	Barlow	England	S187sh	United Kingdom
Tana Briggs	Gildersome	England	LS27 7bw	United Kingdom
AVRIL BANKS	SHEFFIELD	England	S12 2GH	United Kingdom
Gillian Hughes	Hixon	England	ST18 0NR	United Kingdom
Hilary Briggs	Sheffield	England	S119HE	United Kingdom
Keven Briggs	c/o Sheffield	England	S11 9HE	United Kingdom
Amy Ryall	Sheffield	England	S8 9ED	United Kingdom
Helen Ryall	Sheffield	England	S7 1RX	United Kingdom
Jim bainbridge	Todwick	England	s26 1jx	United Kingdom
Natalie Coward	Sheffield	England	S7 2by	United Kingdom
Rita Norman	Pudsey	England	LS28 8JB	United Kingdom
Yan Geng	谢菲尔德	England	S7 2LL	United Kingdom
jonnathan jeffery	Sheffield	England	s11 9jl	United Kingdom
Jeff Waters	Sheffield	England	S7 2LY	United Kingdom
Tom Ryall	Sheffield	England	S7 1RX	United Kingdom
Rachel Berry	Belfast	Ireland	BT9 5HL	United Kingdom
Claire Roberts	Banbury	England	OX16 9TL	United Kingdom
JAMES Kavanagh	Glasgow	Scotland	G52 2ps	United Kingdom
Andrea Tomlinson	Warmsworth	England	dn4 9lb	United Kingdom
Caroline Millman	Sheffield	England	S7 2gy	United Kingdom
Andrew Millman	Sheffield	England	S7 2GY	United Kingdom
Alyson Siddall	Sheffield	England	S7 2HE	United Kingdom
Carolynne Farmer	Sheffield	England	S11 9HF	United Kingdom
Helen chapman	Leeds	England	ls17 8xp	United Kingdom
Kajal Odedra	london	England	e5 0ln	United Kingdom
Matt Saunders	Bournheath	England	b61 9jh	United Kingdom

Cheryl Cartwright	Alvechurch	England	B48 7ly	United Kingdom
Laura Ioffhouse	Outwell	England	pe14 8rg	United Kingdom
simon Carson	Bromsgrove	England	b60 2pw	United Kingdom
Chris Young	Northampton	England	NN2 8UU	United Kingdom
Sarah blackham	Longstanton	England	cb24 3Gw	United Kingdom
ken walker	Nottingham	England	NG3 5NJ	United Kingdom
James blackham	Longstanton	England	cb24 3gw	United Kingdom
Tim Cartwright	Alvechurch	England	B487ly	United Kingdom
Rosie Dodgson	Sheffield	England	S10 1qn	United Kingdom
Caroline Wright	Sheffield	England	S7 2QN	United Kingdom
Andrew McGrath	Sheffield	England	S72lz	United Kingdom
Elizabeth Charnley	Birmingham	England	B388DB	United Kingdom
Alison Hughes	Birmingham	England	B388EG	United Kingdom
Elleanor Kavanagh	Glasgow	Scotland	G52 2PS	United Kingdom
Ania Ares	Sheffield	England	S7 2GA	United Kingdom
Penelope Clow			7630-430	Portugal
Kevin Rhodes	Sheffield	England	S12 3JR	United Kingdom
Amanda childs	Sheffield	England	S10 5fb	United Kingdom
Ruth winter	Sheffield	England	s7 2lp	United Kingdom
Ricardo Ares	Sheffield	England	S7 2GA	United Kingdom
Tracy brown	Sheffield	England	s7 2gd	United Kingdom
Zahir Shah	Peshawar			Pakistan
Lorraine Monk	Eckington	England	S21 4BU	United Kingdom
Elizabeth carter	Wincanton	England	ba9 8lz	United Kingdom
Nicholas Jones	Sheffield	England	S11 9LF	United Kingdom
Victoria li	Sheffield	England	s11	United Kingdom

## Dobcroft Petition Comments

### Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Nikki Crookes	United Kingdom	2015-01-23	My children will have passed through Dobcroft when these changes occur, however, as a resident of Milthouses and a parent of children who have benefited from Dobcroft core values I can see without any doubt that the proposed changes will be of considerable detriment to the community and children's education and safety. We have more than sufficient places for children in catchment without expansion.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sarah Dale	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	<p>The biggest concerns that many of us share are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>1. Just Too Big for Little Children</b>  Dobcroft already has the largest annual intake of children in the area. The teachers already have to work very hard to stop this feeling intimidating to children.</p> <p>The addition of an extra 60 children by the time our Foundation Stage children reach Year 2 will make the school feel much bigger and more overwhelming to new and existing children alike. Just imagine what a school size of 360 pupils will feel like to a 4-year old.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>2. Insufficient / Inadequate Shared Space</b>  There will be increasing and considerable pressure on already tried shared areas. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The ICT Suite – because of existing demand for these facilities the children are only able to have a short period of time allocated to ICT each week. More children in school will squeeze this available time even further – far from ideal in the digital age. (The facility may be relocated under the redesign plans, but that won't compensate for increased demand)</li> <li>o Twice weekly PE sessions may be threatened if the already complex logistics of the Hall can't accommodate the additional classes, especially in winter.</li> <li>o Areas like the Hall, Library, play facilities and toilets will suffer significantly greater wear and tear as the number of children increases.</li> </ul> </p></li> <li> <p><b>3. Overcrowding</b>  Lunchtimes will be even more busy and rushed. If the school is forced to move to three sittings to accommodate the extra numbers then some children will either be forced to eat very early or very late.</p> <p>After-School Clubs, DASH and activities such as School Disco's, School Plays and Sports Days will become overcrowded and potentially a logistical nightmare for those organising and supporting.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>4. Reduced Space Available for Play</b>  New classrooms cannot be added without removing outdoor space. With more children attending, more outdoor space would be appropriate rather than less. Children need enough space to let off steam after periods of intensive classroom learning. Let's not forget that the curriculum is becoming more demanding year on year.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>5. Disruption and Safety Risks</b>  Any building work needed will undoubtedly bring with it disruption and safety implications for the children. Our Foundation Stage children will experience this at least three times as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the building work to create the new library &amp; ICT area takes place.</li> <li>b. the building work to create new classrooms for the additional children in 2016 and 2017 takes place in the Infant's School.</li> <li>c. the building work takes place in the Junior School to accommodate the additional numbers, starting the first year our Foundation Stage children join the Junior School. (if the Junior School building work is phased in year by year then our Children will experience this every single year they are at Junior School)</li> </ul> </p></li> <li> <p><b>6. Road Safety Danger and Traffic Congestion</b>  The vast majority of new children will be from outside our catchment area. This means there will be a significant increase in road congestion and parking challenges in the surrounding roads at drop off and pick-up times. By 2020, when our foundation children are in their first year of Juniors, this will mean the potential for an additional 180 parking spaces being sought (and fought over) in the area. We've all witnessed some of the "parking" and "right of way" wars that take place every morning along Whitlowdale Crescent and Pingle Road – do we really want that to escalate into further chaos?</p> <p>More importantly, the dangerous implications for the road safety of the children are very concerning. Parents usually start to let their children develop their independence in the last couple of years at Junior School by allowing them to cross the roads to school alone and making at least part of their journey without adult supervision. How comfortable would you be with that knowing there could be an additional 180 cars in the area in a morning? And if we rein-in the children's development at that stage over safety concerns, how prepared, independent and confident will the children be when it comes to attending Senior School?</p> </li> </ol> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Katie Haigh	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	My children have been very happy at Dobcroft, but it is already one of the largest infant & junior schools in this area & to increase this to 120 per year is too much. The children are already being taught in mobile classrooms that I was taught in 30 years ago that were temporary then! There is already limited outdoor space particularly at the infant school, at the junior school 2 classes are already taught in the dinner concourse...the list goes on
Nadine Cain	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I am against any increase in pupil numbers at Dobcroft. The school is not big enough for the children already attending. The site is not big enough to expand the school without impacting on the limited outside play space. I find it totally unacceptable to forfeit the library in order to accommodate the extra class for 2015. The library is a valuable resource not only for its primary function but it is used extensively as an extra learning space for small group teaching, special needs children and quiet space for one to one reading/teaching. It is already difficult to find quiet space in the school and the quality of education will undoubtedly suffer for many of the children.
Sarah Wilson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	Dobcroft is already overcrowded. Please don't make it any bigger! Two other schools can offer much more viable alternatives
Lisa wragg	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	you have over crowded dore primary & that's a year to year lurch finger in the dark disaster for our current y2s & y1s. Sort it out lea!
Jenny Gallacher	Dronfield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I'm signing because Pingle Road, etc are already a nightmare with cars at dropping off & pick up time & more children would just make the problem worse. It's amazing that there hasn't been a bad accident yet & there's no way an ambulance or fire engine would be able to get through.
nicola medd	stoke on trent, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I think there are better alternatives out there that the council should consider. I think the Dobcroft schools will become too big to continue to provide the excellent individualised care they do now.
Loretta Chantry-Groves	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	Dobcroft is already intimidatingly large & overcrowded for young children. My own child & many of her friends are still finding this overwhelming at times. The nearby smaller Ecclesall Infants have actually requested these extra places.
Kathryn Forrester	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	I am signing because I do not agree that there is space to accept more pupils into dobcroft schools. My daughter is currently in foundation class and already finds it stressful at dinner time with the current number of children in the dining hall. I am also currently not happy that children in the two current mobile out building classrooms have to go outside on their own to walk to the main building to find a toilet - extra pupils from Sept will put further strain on the toilet provisions - adding to stress levels for these little 4 and 5 year olds. Any loss of outdoor space for extra buildings will make outdoor play more cramped and therefore increase stress and risk of accidents.
Brenda Jones	Thornier, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	My grandson attends Dobcroft Infants and having dropped him off and picked him up I am aware of the problems that increasing pupil numbers would cause. I am a retired teacher and have been in a similar situation which is very stressful for pupils and staff.
Nita White	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	my granddaughter attends Dobcroft and it does not have facility to expand. Council should agree the requests for expansion of both Ecclesall and Clifford schools
Amy Clark	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	The need isn't at this school keep local children in local schools
Simon McCabe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	Dobcroft is not a viable site for this expansion. It is already too cramped and valuable learning space will be lost. Others actively want expansion at their schools - listen to what people want.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rachel Briggs	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	Other local schools want to expand and have the ability too when Dobcroft does not.
Clare Samuelson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	our children like Dobcroft school but one of the drawbacks to this otherwise excellent school is the lack of play space. They are overcrowded in the playground and find it difficult to run around. Also with so many children there they can often feel a bit lost amongst the crowd. How can they be adequately supervised, and have enough space to play and run, if even more children are squashed in there?
Jenny Sheehan	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	Infant school is already overcrowded. I am a concerned grandparent and ex teacher. This is not the right future for this school.
Michelle McCabe	Edinburgh, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	this is my nephews' school
Sarah King	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	I agree entirely with all the points made
Anna coupland	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	The school is already in need of larger teaching spaces for its existing pupils, the school needs funding to be rebuilt properly.
Rafiat Lagundoye	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	I am a parent at the infant and junior school. They are already over crowded with limited outdoor space. Additional places would only make things worse.
Caroline Vaughan	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	The school is not big enough for an extra class intake when there are already two mobile classrooms. Also living near the school - the roads around the school can not cope with any more traffic.
Enid Hirst	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	This proposed expansion is going to add to the already dangerous traffic issues on roads local to Dobcroft, St. Wilfred's and Mylnhurst schools. At school starting times there is already chaos on our roads which have become dangerous for pedestrians, motorists and children who takes chances crossing the gridlocked roads. We are virtually trapped in our houses until the school traffic has been and gone - twice a day. Parents park across drives and there are frequent conflicts over the remaining parking spaces and the unsuspecting drivers who happen to want to get through the "one way" gap on their way to work or to deliver goods. It has got much worse since the start of this new school year - something has to be done to stop this already dangerous situation. This is becoming really dangerous and further expansion of Dobcroft must not be allowed. When a serious accident happens our councillors may well be held responsible if they allow more traffic to endanger lives on a daily basis. I have taken photographs of the traffic chaos and will continue to do so.
Jane Carson	Portugal	2015-01-25	This will affect my grandsons and it's not right
Elizabeth Borland	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	My daughter is starting school Sep and I do not want her in an over crowded school. I also live on Dobcroft Road and would be effected by the extra traffic.
Dominic Hayes	Bakewell, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	The right solution is to give parents what they want, ie no expansion at Dobcroft, it's not fair to the children that are there at the min. Other schools want the expansion and have the space. Dobcroft's head should be working for her own schools parents not her personal ambition and C.V. (That goes for the governors aswell)
Peter Thompson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	Local children should attend their local school and not have children ferried in cars from other areas causing chaos to the roads

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lucy Atherton	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	This school has not got the room to expand without new buildings. I don't feel it's fair to any child's learning to be compromised by the lack of space this project will bring. How long do you think it will take to feed 360 children hot school meals? How will 12 classes do 2 hours of indoor PE over the winter months, can local roads accommodate an additional 210 cars from children coming from other catchments (once all additional classes are filled into the junior school). These are just a few of the issues and lets not forget the 30 whole days the council have given school parents in consultation. Is this really a consultation or is this what 'is' going to happen?
Jane Huws	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	Dobcroft infants is already at full capacity. An additional class would take up all extra space which is currently used for space for upset (SEN) children, visits by Speech Therapist, Reading Volunteers. Adding to pupil numbers would seriously affect the quality of education at this school.
Angela Larkin	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I fundamentally disagree with an intake of 120 at primary level.
Dominic Britt	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I know how limited this school is for space already and have 2 daughters attending currently - this will also affect the junior school when new pupils progress from infants.
Christopher Medd	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I fear that the expansion will damage the school's ability to provide an outstanding education to our children through the loss of non-classroom space and playgrounds. The long term plan to educate 840 children between the two schools will exceed the resources of the site, and have a significant knock on effect to local residents in terms of traffic and road use. It would seem that the choice to expand Dobcroft has been made for reasons of short term economics and expediency, rather than pursuing the expansion of other much smaller local schools who would like to grow.
Deborah Mullens	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I don't agree with the proposed expansion for all the reasons given.
Helen Winter	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	Dobcroft infant and junior sites are already overcrowded, with use of temporary classrooms, limited cloakroom facilities and the need for staggered lunch times. I strongly feel that both the educational and wider needs of pupils will be compromised by the addition of extra classes to this school. It would be extremely sad if current facilities such as forest school, playing field, playground or library were to be lost.
Kate Oliver	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I am the aunt of a pupil and prospective pupil and a local resident. The increase would have both an impact on my nieces education and a huge impact on traffic. There is already chaos on the local streets around morning drop-off and afternoon pick up.
Sarah Hakes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	The increased class size number is not required in the current Dobcroft catchment for the next 4 years. There are already 5 temporary classrooms with shared amenities meaning toilet and shared learning areas are already over crowded. If the places are not needed in catchment the new children will be travelling from out of catchment, will need to drive and further add to the dangerously congested roads around the site entrances.
Ann Brewster	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I live within 100 yards of the school and have vehicles blocking our road every day during the school term. They are not only at school opening and closing times but all day now presumably because there are not enough parking places within the school grounds for staff parking. We have lorry drivers knocking on our door regularly when they are unable to get through the parked cars.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Heathet Hughes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	this proposal is poorly thought through and does not address the real needs of the area (eg where the extra children are in Sharrow and Greystones) and will seriously affect these schools. They should already be a through primary and a 4- form per year primary is rare because they don't work for the children or staff. Please, please think again. Build a new primary school on the Bannerdale site, that would be more forward thinking or expand Hoff house, that's closer to the need and is only 2 classes.
Anne Wright	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	As well as the reasons already given which I agree with, as an original pupil when the school very first opened it was disappointing enough to see how squashed in everything was my daughter was recently a pupil so to see further overcrowding is such a shame
Gail Wright	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	A 120 pupil entry is far too many for an infant school. There are clearly also significant health and safety implications of increasing student numbers.
Jason Stubbs	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I'm signing because this whole scheme appears to have been thrown together with very little thought to how this will effect the current students within their learning environment, available space to play, toilet facilities, parking, knock on effect with the junior school, lack of knowledge available at the "consultation meeting" as well as conflicting information. Instead of Sheffield City Council coming up with yet another make do and mend quick fix solution why not do things properly and create a learning environment that will not "just do" but actually inspire and encourage the children to want to work and achieve the very best that they can. I worry that this will be poorly thought out, poorly executed and directly impact what is currently an exceptionally good school with great staff.
Ann Wheatley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	This proposal has not been thought through and apparently there as been no consultation with either local residents or parents of pupils. This is not the way to get support and I very much hope it is thrown out.
Debra warren	Sheffield, ENG	2015-01-26	Dobcroft' school is has too many children in the school grounds already, the children are too young to be in a school with 120 intake, the traffic is already an issue every morning. There are many many more issues being raised.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jean Hayes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	<p>To expand the Pupil Admission Number at Dobcroft Infant School to 126 from September 2015 is certainly not in the best interests of young children.</p> <p>As a City once at the forefront of exemplary practice in Early Years Education, Sheffield now seemingly lacks the crucial consultation and genuine debate between Officers looking to place on numbers alone and Officers who need to be more proactive as Advocates for ensuring appropriate quality learning and teaching environments.</p> <p>How can such a disparity arise where the School is already successful in many areas? It is utilising space to a maximum in providing a very good education, achieving good results and working well with Parents / Carers and the School Community. By going ahead with the proposed additional numbers it will lead to overcrowding, and question the viability of continued success in all the crucial areas mentioned, as well as putting pressure on relationships with families and the wider School Community.</p> <p>Some existing spaces that are conducive to learning experiences would be subject to re-modelling, taking them away from use for existing children. Much more consideration should be given to how overwhelming such large numbers are to the very young and to what degree a lack of appropriate space has a negative impact. It is certainly not about how many chairs and tables can be squeezed in!</p> <p>I am signing this petition as a Grandparent concerned about the impact of this ill-though through decision and also as an Advocate for Quality in Early Years. As a retired Sheffield Nursery School Headteacher, my view is that all children need to be facilitated as lifelong learners through an appropriate learning environment as integral to their Curriculum. Adequate space to explore and learn through structured play, whilst developing increased confidence, is key to maximising educational attainment. How then is such overcrowding seen be conducive to current children attending or the new cohort?</p> <p>Overcrowding creates potential "obstacles" to a happy and thriving learning environment that may also impact on children with additional and specific needs, in terms of the loss of any quieter areas and overwhelming numbers of children sharing very limited space. A space in which to support children working with other Professionals is always an important factor.</p> <p>Officers recommending this action towards resolving a crisis in places should be urged to re-think the issues around Quality for all children and not purely on 'Affordability'? Birth rate figures and trends have been available in time for better planning options to be consulted upon and discussed with the rigour deserved. So, why the late urgency to create these places with no consultation? The Council's own figures suggest that other local Schools have a greater capacity to expand in order to offer places to children in their catchment. There is significant support for this option which explores better long term solutions, without the overcrowding that Dobcroft would endure.</p> <p>Object to the Council having a right to implement these changes in 2015 without consultation or due care about the impact on children. Sign the petition. Children only have one chance of experiencing a quality School environment to support their learning. An increase in number in a building with very limited space indoors and outdoors is not the solution for any of the Council's objectives. Whilst the City Council has legal obligations to provide places in a complex framework and the powers to implement decisions, informed debate and better communication is crucial. Being able to impose changes to practice doesn't necessarily mean that it is the most appropriate route to ensure maintaining and continuously striving to improve on the quality of education. Offering children the best learning environment possible, is surely the most important goal.</p>
Helen Mark	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	<p>Quality indoor and Outdoor learning spaces will suffer thus creating a direct impact on the learning experiences, well-being and feeling of belonging for the children.</p>

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Neil warren	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	the school is already overcrowded in temporary buildings and very little help from the Sheffield council. Maybe there's not enough unemployed parents on benefits to get the investment needed!!!!
Ann Cockram	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	The welfare education of children at this school are all being jepodised. The site is not big enough to accommodate extra children, it is a crowded school already
Mark Howe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	I think the proposal to increase the intake of the school will cause problems unless the plan involves making the school (building and physical environment) much bigger.
Deborah Niven	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	my children are at Dobcroft Infants and Dobcroft Juniors and the proposal will have a detrimental effect on resources
allen broomhead	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	I'm a local resident. This is being forced upon us without consultation or need. The effect on our street will be horrendous.
Sam Foyle	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	This move will have a detrimental effect on my son and other pupils at Dobcroft. These proposals have not been thought through and the extra class is not needed.
kirstie ekwubin	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	My friends children attend there
Frances Ryall	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	I think that adding the extra classes will be detrimental to the school.
Eamonn Cox	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	I object on the grounds there has been no demonstrated requirement for additional catchment capacity. The environmental and health and safety impact of the additional traffic in an already very busy Residential area. The unsustainability of transporting children across catchment areas without real need. The impact on these children of unnecessary travel on school days, and the impact on the existing children at the school on reduced resources and space.
Nathan Smith	Everton, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	To assist the plight of parents with children at the school
Jorja Gi	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	dobcroft is already at maximum capacity, adding more classrooms will take away the quality of the school! Just build a new junior school and expand a different infant school
Barbara Stuchfield	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	My children attende this schooland it was overcrowded then. My Grandddaughter now attends, it can't possibly take any more children
Ewan Stuchfield	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	It's already a joke, we already have to further fund our children's education with wildly over priced educational visits from outsourced 'professionals' and school trips. Imagine how much more will be demanded from us if there is another class to fund
Sarah Holmes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	Concerned that this school will feel intimidating for young children with further expansion especially at playtime. Indoor and outdoor space already feels limited and more children attending school will limit space further and create safety issues especially at playtime. Traffic/parking really dangerous near school and this will increase significantly (in the long term) causing further safety implications to children walking/crossing roads.
ruth sumner	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	Listed on my letter of objection sent to sheffield city council

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Gasan Chetty	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	The school is landlocked with no option to expand outwards. Utilising any space within the property already strains a system which is under pressure and just about meeting safety standards. It seems extremely illogical and beggars belief, that a council could choose to ignore 2 other schools within a mile radius of Dobcroft who actually have the potential to expand? I have a strong objection to placing my child at the added risk of attending a school which is now under pressure and struggling with funding. It's about time that a sensible person/s at the council wakes up and sees the wood from the trees. Better still, spend a day at the school and see how well all -teachers and pupils, have adapted to a school which works to such high standards under adverse conditions.
Paul Niven	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	The school is already big enough with the teachers being extremely stretched.
Fenetta Snow	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	The building is not suitable for expansion.
Sam Lin	• 菲 • 林, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	the these schools are already full of children. 90 pupils per year group. I can not believe the council are still wanting to add more places.
Gary Smith	Detroit, MI	2015-01-28	car parking at school times is horrible. those parents blocked our gate.
Shona Davison	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	Dobcroft is already a large school. If it becomes larger it will be way beyond an acceptable size for a primary school.
Jill rackham	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	I believe expanding Ecclesall Infants and making Clifford a through Primary would be a better solution.
Christopher Campbell	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	From reading the literature to hand I do not believe that Dobcroft infant can cope with the amount of children it is proposing, having been a parent at the school for over a year.
Quentin Jendrzewski	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I have a baby who in a few years will need to be educated.
laye cockram	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	This is a not the correct way to resolve the issue .the council need to look at the other schools with more space and provision.
anne avgousti	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	my grandchildren go to this school.
sylvia goring	north shields, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	as a grandparent who regularly collects or drops off children I feel there would be insufficient room for the extra classes without adversely effecting the current children.
Jo White	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	my children go to this school
Paul Wright	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	This proposal will deliver school places in areas where there is limited need at the expense of schools that are desperate to expand. The council's own figures indicate the infant school already has 24 more pupils than the site's capacity so I fully understand the proposal to introduce 90 more!
Nik Seth	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	As a former parent and governor, I oppose the idea as the key people to suffer will be the children. Both schools are massively overcrowded and have too little space already. Adding 30% to the school populations would destroy the schools and the childrens' space to grow.
Dean Jones	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	There are other options to create the extra spaces needed in Ecclesall Infants. I would not be happy for my child to go to school where they have been squashed into an already crowded school and I can fully understand why neighbours would not want more cars being brought into the area every day.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
colin chapman	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	too many children in one class reduces one to one attention too many distractions
MELISSA WINDLE	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	We moved house to make sure our two boys could be placed in Ecclesall Infants school. My husband, his sister and all my eldest sons cousins have been or ho to Ecclesall. we would be extremely disappointed if we had to place them anywhere else. I do not drive, and we would struggle taking the boys anywhere else.
Sharon Prasanto	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	The school is already struggling to fit all it's pupils into the current school and building new classrooms is only going to take away the schools already small playground area. There are lots of small village schools that only have one class per year so it seems unfair to add an extra class to a school that already has 3 classes per year. Even though my son will be leaving the school before the changes are due to happen I believe this is totally unacceptable. This will only put more pressure on dobcroft school teaching staff and the quality of teaching and the children's education will suffer.
Caroline Tompkins	Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	it affects my friends children
Sally Sequerra	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	This needs more thought & consultation and shouldn't be rushed through. Also worried about extra cars in an already busy area with 2 schools. Dangerous driving / parking witnessed every day as close resident. Where are extra children going to be housed - no room & push to increase outdoor learning / physical fitness not reduce it. How will overcrowding & stretched resources increase learning capability.
Hilary Foster	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	Putting an extra 90 kids in infants, an extra 120 in juniors when there isn't room while two others schools actively want to expand. and there's good evidence to support the forecast that Ecclesall is where a larger need will be. is just illogical and perverse. Please listen, SCC!
JO Roe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	It affects my family
Jo Egan	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	the school building is already overcrowded and has a number of mobiles operating as classrooms. An extension would take away from outdoor play areas. In addition, the parking around school is horrendous and more cars would make it dangerous. The school is dated and needs to be rebuilt, not have additional classes added on.
Michelle allen	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-31	traffic problems, school not big enough, lack of outdoor space
Frieda Wingfield	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-31	I'm fed up with cars blocking my drive at school times
Jake Coupland	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-31	As an ex-student I believe the school to be cramped enough and increasing student numbers would only make this worse.
Phil Birkinshaw	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-01	Council's own Q and A document proves it is unnecessary. Too much traffic congestion already.
ade kentzer	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-01	The traffic congestion is bad enough as it is without increasing it by another third thereby increasing the risk of accidents. The school grounds in my opinion are not big enough to support the extra capacity.
Matthew Davison	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-01	The school is already at capacity and additional children would further deplete existing resources
Andy Roe	Eckington, United Kingdom	2015-02-02	This change will be detrimental to the education of my niece and nephew

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Alistair Hagh	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-02	<p>The school already has the largest annual intake of pupils in the South West of Sheffield, out of 11 schools only Dobcroft and Hunters Bar already are committed to an annual intake of 90 pupils. Increasing the school pupil intake by one third will reduce the amount of outdoor play space (which is already limited) and push beyond the limits the school's shared facilities (e.g. hall, library, ICT suite, etc.)</p> <p>Virtually all the additional spaces will be taken by children from outside the catchment area, and therefore all will be travelling to school by car - thus ensuring the existing traffic problems will be made substantially worse.</p> <p>The proposal to expand Dobcroft infants demonstrates a complete laziness of thought on behalf of the Sheffield Council education department, and it is a proposal which takes no account as to what is in the best interests of children and parents.</p>
Sarah Turner	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-03	<p>I do not agree with the proposal for the following reasons-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- intake of 120 is just too big for small children</li> <li>- overcrowding at the school</li> <li>- impact on already stretched shared services/ resources</li> <li>- reduced area to play because of the need to build to accommodate additional places</li> <li>- health and safety risks and road safety issues.</li> </ul> <p>These points will be expanded on in a formal objection to the council.</p>
Alexander McCabe	Paisley, United Kingdom	2015-02-03	<p>My Grandson goes to this school. It is not suitable for this expansion. Please explore other more viable options.</p>
Shehzad Yousaf	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-05	<p>Dobcroft school already serves more children than originally planned for, with the pupils having to make use of limited (and not always appropriate) indoor spaces; this is in addition to the mobiles that are already on site. Furthermore, there is an impact to families in the local community with additional traffic and footfall, which will only grow if the additional places are approved. Finally, please consider the expansion of other schools which can absorb the increase, unlike Dobcroft.</p>
Gemma Drydale	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-06	<p>I live on the street where the school is based and am very concerned about traffic levels, already cars block most access roads at school drop off/ collect time. Also have children who will be attending this school and concerned about the quality of their education if shoehorned in and insufficient facilities.</p>
Ed X	•菲•德, United Kingdom	2015-02-07	<p>ther are already enough chaos at this area, getting more children and parents into Dobcroft is a mistake.</p>
GAYNOR PYRAH	Bradford, United Kingdom	2015-02-08	<p>I WISH THE SCHOOL TO KEEP NUMBERS AS THEY ARE. EXPANSION MAKES MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVES.</p>
Mike Hughes	binton, United Kingdom	2015-02-09	<p>Overcrowding in schools is bad for education.</p>
Gillian Hughes	Hixon, United Kingdom	2015-02-09	<p>My Great Nephew attends this school. I am a retired Primary School Teacher. In my experience overcrowded schools have a damning effect on children's education. The present good reputation of this school is at stake.</p>
Amy Ryall	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-09	<p>Removing Library facilities and outdoor space in schools is not the way to provide a rounded and quality education.</p>
Rita Norman	Pudsey, United Kingdom	2015-02-10	<p>Unacceptable. Our children deserve better.</p>

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Yan Geng	• 莊 • 德, United Kingdom	2015-02-10	the neighbourhood has madness parking fights going on in the morning and afternoon, if the council bring more people into this area, you will are putting children's life at risk, why don't you expand at Ecclesall Infant, Clifford.
Mait Saunders	Bourneheath, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	I think it's disgusting what is being proposed.
Sarah blackham	Longstanton, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	because I have relatives who attend the school currently
Caroline Wight	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	My child starts this school in September and the issues outlined on the petition are of great concern to me.
Andrew McGrath	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	Im worried about traffic and the dangers this poses to children, plus the obvious space issues (i.e. where are the children going to eat??!!?)
Eleanor Kavanagh	Glasgow, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	Classes are already overcrowded more pupils will make the teachers job a lot harder.
ania ares	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need: current data suggests there is no need within existing catchment for additional spaces and the pressure is in other schools</li> <li>- funding- it is not clear what the proposals are and whether they will address historic under funding</li> <li>- traffic, increase of 210 children from out of catchment will have significant impact on local roads. SCC have not provided any Traffic Impact Assessment info</li> <li>- potential negative impact on children's education</li> <li>- current site area is approx 23,000m<sup>2</sup> if the school was to increase to 840 pupils the gross site area for that amount of pupils according to BB103 should be 27,000m<sup>2</sup>. Increase would result in overcrowding and go against current government guidance for school development</li> </ul>
Penny Clow	Portugal	2015-02-11	The schools current values need to be kept
Kevin Rhodes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	As usual with all government run organisations, any feasibility study and consultation period are inadequate token gestures. Instead of ignoring users concerns they should listen and take on board all the relevant issues that users have and are raising, such as inadequate provisions of toilet / cloakroom and dining facilities. Removal of indoor / outdoor spaces. Little regard or understanding of traffic implications. All these issues will effect the ability to merely maintain quality education, let alone improve it. Sadly most politicians have an inability or lack of will to listen to the people who initially gave them their posts.
Ricardo Ares	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-11	I believe there are better alternatives that could deliver the extra spaces in other Sheffield schools
Zahir Shah	Peshawar, Pakistan	2015-02-12	I'm signing it because it will have bad impact on learning environment of students. Please do not increase number of students
Elizabeth carter	Wincanton, United Kingdom	2015-02-12	my grandchildren go to school in Sheffield
Nicholas Jones	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-12	My children will suffer as a result of squeezing all the extra children into both schools. I am concerned about their education, their health and safety and the impact it will have on their early school life and physical education if extra buildings squeeze out (already relatively small) playing areas. Bringing more traffic into the area which already has 3 schools in very close proximity increases the likelihood of accidents.

## Clifford Petition

Below is the text of a an online petition that has been running for the past three weeks during the consultation period. Whilst I know you are aware of this petition, I wanted to send all current comments and 378 signatures to you tonight so that everyone who has signed and commented will be counted ([change.org](http://change.org) sends updates but this is likely to be the final number before close of consultation). Please do read the comments. There are a wide variety of concerns and these need to be addressed.

Yours,

Judith Jones

### **Create new primary school places that are accessible to the areas of highest need by expanding Ecclesall Infant School by one form and expanding Clifford Infant School into a through primary.**

Sheffield City Council are consulting on plans to expand Dobcroft by one class in every year group. There are currently over sixty children in South West Sheffield who will not get a place in their catchment school and could be sent to schools far from home. Dobcroft is already offering places to children not in catchment and is in the wrong place to help with this. Even if Dobcroft expands by one form there are still not enough primary school places for the number of children in the area. Children will be sent to schools that are nowhere near where they live, and parents will have to ensure they are there every day on time or they will get fined. Sheffield City Council has a history of solving the problem of primary school places by forcing schools to build on their playgrounds and convert all their vital non-classroom workspaces into classrooms. Sheffield City Council needs to act now by expanding Clifford and Ecclesall Infants to provide more primary school places. There is room for both schools to expand without losing non-classroom work spaces and with minimal disruption to current pupils. These plans have the support of both headteachers. If you have an interest in providing quality primary education in Sharrow, Nether Edge, Ecclesall, Lowfield and Greystones we ask you to sign the petition below, adding your own comments. For more information, read on.

There are many children in Sheffield who are unable to get a school place in their catchment school. However, the disparity between places on offer and children in catchment varies. The figures given by a member of the Sheffield City Council admission team in November 2014 were:

Ecclesall Infant School: 60 places available, 84 children in catchment, disparity of 24

Greystones Primary School: 90 places available (following recent expansion), 104 in catchment, disparity of 14

Sharrow Primary School: 60 places available, 102 in catchment, disparity of 42

Lowfield Primary School: 60 places available, 77 in catchment, disparity of 17

Holt House Infant School: 60 places available, 94 in catchment, disparity of 34

Nether Edge Primary School: 60 places available, 89 in catchment, disparity of 29

Hunter's Bar: 90 places available, 74 in catchment, 16 additional non-catchment places

Dobcroft: 90 places available, 76 in catchment, 14 additional non-catchment places

In 2015, Sheffield City Council plan to increase Dobcroft school by one class. The letter sent to parents claims:

“In response to an increasing pupil population in the South West of the City the Authority is making an extra class (30 places) available at Dobcroft Infant School for the Reception (Foundation 2) intake in September 2015. As this year group moves through the school, an

extra class will also be made available at Dobcroft Junior School for the 2018 Year 3 intake. The council is formally consulting on making this increase a permanent change for all future intakes from September 2016 onwards and information on this proposal is being made available locally during January.”

This petition is to say to Sheffield City Council that even if the permanent expansion of Dobcroft goes ahead it will not be enough to alleviate the problem of children being sent to schools that are not near to where they live. In fact, in areas with the highest number of children not able to go to their catchment school, it will make little or no difference. Therefore, it makes financial and practical sense to expand Clifford Infant School into a through primary and increase Ecclesall Infant School by one form.

Dobcroft already has pupils attending that do not live in the catchment area. The school has not got an easily available expansion site. Having seen what has happened in a number of other schools (including Greystones) it is likely that any expansion of Dobcroft will involve either the loss of non-classroom work spaces or building on the playground. This reduces the quality of education for all children. Furthermore, concerns about parking around Dobcroft have already been raised locally.

In contrast, Clifford Infant School does not have a catchment area. It is currently a single form infant school taking children from all over the city. There are also children of many different religions and of no faith attending. There is space to expand Clifford Infant School without having to build on a playground or reduce libraries or other spaces. The former council-owned Sheffield Inclusion Centre building opposite Clifford Infant School is currently empty, as is the large plot of land adjacent to the school. The headteacher and chair of governors have both given their support to this move, and many parents also agree this would be beneficial for their children as it means the transition between infant and junior school is smoother.

Informal talks have taken place that have included the Ecclesall Infant executive headteacher. It is understood that if Clifford increases to a through primary, Ecclesall Infant School will also expand to become three form entry. Ecclesall Infant School is currently oversubscribed, with 24 children in catchment for whom there is no space. Furthermore, Ecclesall Infant School has a large amount of outside space available to it. Any expansion would still leave pupils with a sizeable playground and is likely not to reduce their vital non-classroom workspaces. Ecclesall Junior school could then take all Ecclesall Infant children when they reach Y3, as they would no longer be accepting a class from the expanded Clifford Primary.

Sheffield City Council has an opportunity here to plan for future admissions sensibly. The expansion of Dobcroft, whilst creating additional school places, will not help pupils in the areas where they are least likely to get a catchment place. Expanding Clifford and Ecclesall is a fairer choice as there is no catchment at Clifford and Ecclesall is over-subscribed.

The children going into reception at Clifford in 2015 could be the first entering the through primary. This allows three years for any necessary building work to be completed and for vacancies to be advertised and filled. The disruption to education of children at Clifford will be far less than that of any other school where increasing capacity requires in-school or playground building work.

Increasing Ecclesall Infant School by one class is a viable proposition, and recognised as such by the executive headteacher. There will still be ample outside space for children and all children will still be able to complete the smooth transition to Ecclesall Junior School.

Please add your own comments when signing this petition - it is important that the council realises the vast number of different reasons why expanding Clifford to a through primary and expanding Ecclesall Infants by one form is the right decision. Thank you.

Name	City	State	Zip Code	Country	Signed On
Judith Jones	Sheffield			England	United Kingdom 18/01/2015
Emma Hardy	Sheffield			England	S11 7LG United Kingdom 18/01/2015
fiona greensit	Sheffield			England	S11 7rb United Kingdom 18/01/2015
Jen Hardy	Sheffield			England	S10 2DZ United Kingdom 18/01/2015
Matthew Hardy	Sheffield			England	S10 2DZ United Kingdom 18/01/2015
Naomi Denno	Sheffield			England	S11 9fb United Kingdom 18/01/2015
Kathryn Fagg	Sheffield			England	S10 4GG United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Martin Rescorle	Sheffield			England	S11 7LN United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Carly Cotton	Sheffield			England	S7 1SG United Kingdom 19/01/2015
KAte Storey	Sheffield			England	S11 19br United Kingdom 19/01/2015
April baird	Sheffield			England	S8 7ph United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Rachel Burton	Sheffield			England	S11 9RN United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Julie Cotton	Sheffield				S6 5S United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Amy Foden	Wigan	England	WN5 7DH		United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Louise Banks	Sheffield			England	S7 1RY United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Louise Platts	Sheffield			England	S7 1nw United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Cherry Mair	Sheffield			England	S11 7qa United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Nicole Brown	Sheffield			England	S7 1SD United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Corinne O'Neill	Sheffield			England	S18 1wf United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Matt Jones	Sheffield			England	S11 9FE United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Joanne Friend	Sheffield			England	S11 7RA United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Margaret Beck	Mitford	England	Ne6 1 3qa		United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Laura Gascoyne	Sheffield			England	S11 7gn United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Zoe Dickinson	Sheffield			England	S11 7RN United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Nic Price	Sheffield			England	S11 7RD United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Sarah Jones	Sheffield			England	S11 9rs United Kingdom 19/01/2015
lisa cook	Sheffield			England	S11 9hu United Kingdom 19/01/2015
ioan Jones	Sheffield			England	S11 9rs United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Katie McCabe	Sheffield			England	S11 9NJ United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Alexander McCabe	Paisley	Scotland			Pa2 7SE United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Jean Hayes	Sheffield			England	S8 0EQ United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Robbie Burton	Sheffield			England	S11 9rn United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Hannah Peck	Sheffield			England	S11 8YD United Kingdom 19/01/2015

katharine crabbe	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1NP	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
karen barker	Sheffield	Englands11 8ay	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
janette foden	Allerton	EnglandBD159lf	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Emma Andrews	Sheffield	EnglandS2 2SF	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Nicola Thompson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9LF	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
stephen brown	Sheffield	Englands7 1sd	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Nadine Cain	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9JN	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Mandy Williams	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LN	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Caroline spooner	Sheffield	Englands117jh	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Craig Burton	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9rn	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
robin smith	Sheffield	Englands7 2gq	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Sarah Patterson	Sheffield	EnglandS117LU	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Laurien Smith	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2GQ	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
stephen peck	Sheffield	Englands11 8yd	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Jodie Thake	Sheffield	EnglandS119LP	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Annwen Stone	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7BH	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Helen Bettesworth	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7gu	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Caroline millman	Sheffield	Englands7 2gy	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Dominic Hayes	Bakewell	EnglandDE45 1 FZ	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Lucy Kettleborough	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2HE	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Sophie bradey	Sheffield	Englands117lq	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Demelza Lee	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1HN	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Andrew Millman	Sheffield	EnglandS72GY	United Kingdom 19/01/2015
Rachel Wright	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2GZ	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Valerie Hobbs	Sheffield	EnglandS118yh	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Helen Pennington	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9FD	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Elizabeth Bennetts	London	EnglandEN4 9NX	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Florence Ij Ugbelase	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8FW	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Sarah Goodhart	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9fd	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Caitlin Waters	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LY	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Liz Dracas	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9dg	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Marguerite White	London	EnglandRM94AT	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Jade Woods	Bridlington	Englandyo15 2ds	United Kingdom 20/01/2015
Alan Batley	sowerby bridge	Englandhx6 3an	United Kingdom 20/01/2015

april varlik	London England	NW1 6XE	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Catherine Liley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9RB	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Helen Winter	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NP	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Laura Jeffery	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9JL	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
rob liley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9rb	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Julie Saunby	Sheffield	EnglandS72na	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Kerry Pearson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9hr	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Janine Hilton	Sheffield	EnglandS119la	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Helen Kayani	Sheffield	EnglandS119aq	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
sharon vickers	london	Englandn15 6rp	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
David Morley	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2QS	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Polly Morley	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2qs	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Rachel Thornton	Sheffield	EnglandS6 4QS	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
elizabeth hooper	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9hp	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Lynda Hewson	Loxley	EnglandS6 6te	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Rosemary Hart	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LL	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Alexandra Harrison	Sheffield	EnglandS10 4LB	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
julie endacott	Sheffield	EnglandS72lt	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Hannah Elliott	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HN	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Rachael Hughes	Sheffield	EnglandS8 2lz	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Michael Elliott	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HN	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
lisa Hollingworth	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9RD	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Matthew Winter	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NP	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Amanda Strine	SHEFFIELD	EnglandS11 9SQ	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
jean Wood	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9JL	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Chris Saunby	Sheffield	EnglandS72NA	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Candice wang	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9jg	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Rebecca Synan	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9QZ	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Brenda Thompson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HA	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Charlotte Bloor	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7ju	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Karen Green	Sheffield	EnglandS8 8qq	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Elaine Holme	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LT	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Simon McCabe	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NJ	United Kingdom	20/01/2015
Steve Barker	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NJ	United Kingdom	20/01/2015



Emma Pandhal	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HN	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
iain mayhew	Sheffield	Englands7 2lw	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Vicki peacock	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2na	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Julia Leatherland	sheffield	EnglandS7 2HB	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
sarah mayhew	Sheffield	Englands7 2lw	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Vicky darker	Sheffield	Englands11 9nn	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Irene Smith	St Andrews	Scotland ky16 8hl	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
William James	"Cockermouth, Cumbria"	EnglandCA13 0BS	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Angela Larkin	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HR	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Morven lowe	Sheffield	Englands11 7rl	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Stephanie Glover	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7TX	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Sally-Ann Rogerson	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2HB	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Max romero cameron	Guildford	Englandgu4 7jp	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Damion Royce	London	EnglandW1A 1AA	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Deborah Woodhouse	Sheffield	EnglandS11. 9lj	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Jessica Ross	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1NN	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Jade Rose	Sheffield	EnglandS72HE	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Maria Widdowson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7PD	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Rachel Gaffey	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LL	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Elizabeth Brough	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7JN	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Tony Norman	Sheffield	EnglandS119JN	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Paul Darker	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NN	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
julie eades	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LA	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Sarah King	Sheffield	EnglandS72lb	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Iain Goodhart	Sheffield	EnglandS119fd	United Kingdom 21/01/2015
Sarah Clarke	Sheffield	EnglandS117pa	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Michael Dale	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7by	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Laurence Mosley	Sheffield	Englands118yn	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Alexandra Knowles	Sheffield	EnglandS118WA	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Jonathan Bradley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8SB	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Mihaela Roxana Cremeciug Pelin	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1LN	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Michael Joyce	Sheffield	EnglandS118xs	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Chris Fry	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9BG	United Kingdom 22/01/2015
Helen Hudson	Sheffield	EnglandS8 0HR	United Kingdom 22/01/2015

Emma Bohan	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7AB	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Evette Hudson	Sheffield	EnglandS8 9dn	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Julie Mosley	Sheffield	EnglandS118yn	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
antje pieper	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7Jy	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Jackie Fry	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9BG	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Angela Fry	Dronfield	EnglandS18 8QR	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Andy Fehler	Sheffield	EnglandS10 1WJ	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Nicola Bailey	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9BG	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Paula Husband	Sheffield	Englands10 1PD	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Rashmi Gadataranavar	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1NW	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
rachel charles	Sheffield	Englands118wb	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
david gumbrell	North Cornelly	Wales cf334df	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
jacqueline ross	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2BR	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Harbans Khella	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1rx	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Joy French	Sheffield	Englands22sf	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Christopher Medd	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LT	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
christian hill	sheffield	Englands11 9az	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Nicola Medd	Sheffield	S7 2T	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Greg Price	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9ft	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Shalini Watkinson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9JL	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Emma Farrell	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2NA	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Frank Reardon	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LT	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Helen Reardon	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LT	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Bethany Marney	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9JB	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Laura Whitworth	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9nr	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Laura Khella	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1RX	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Helen Higgins	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2lp	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Ruth Meiring	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7ax	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Sally Hunter	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7PE	United Kingdom	22/01/2015
Louise Thompson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9rn	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
judith morris	Sheffield	Englands17 4pw	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Louise Engledow	sheffield	Englands7 2LH	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Patrick Kent	Sheffield		United States	23/01/2015
Edward Pennington	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9FD	United Kingdom	23/01/2015

Suzanne Wilde	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LT	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Nikki Leach	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2lj	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Emma Garrow	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8XH	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
June Harris		EnglandHA5 4SJ	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Gail Cox	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2ND	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
louise fear	Sheffield	Englands11 9jg	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Ewan King	Sheffield	Alabama s7 2nb	United States	23/01/2015
Robert Wilson	Sheffield	EnglandS119HD	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Heathet Hughes	Sheffield	Englands11 9pr	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Dylan Hughed	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9PR	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Nicky King	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2NB	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Amy Clark	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9he	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Hannah Edwards	Sheffield	EnglandS119ra	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Amanda Russell	Sheffield	Englands11 7pe	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
ania ares	Sheffield	Englands7 2ga	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Doreen McLaren	Sheffield	EnglandS2 3 ux	United Kingdom	23/01/2015
Sam Thomas	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9PN	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Suzanne Wheatley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9PN	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Xavier Thomas	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9PN	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Liliana Thomas	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9PN	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Kevin Rowntree	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LU	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Ben Higgins	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LP	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Melvyn White		EnglandS7 2DQ	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Nita White	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2DQ	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
shraddha verma	Sheffield	Englands72le	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Alison Pittaway	Worcester	EnglandWr9 7bt	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Louise Jones	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9ft	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
sarah watson	Farsley	EnglandIs28 5hg	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Nikola Matulewicz Evans	Chesterfield	EnglandS42 7da	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Charlotte Richardson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9FU	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
debbie zappa	plymouth	Englandpl1 5qa	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
Clare Samuelson	Sheffield	EnglandS72LW	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
stephen hoadley	Hastings	Englandtn37 7th	United Kingdom	24/01/2015
stuart cox	deal kent	EnglandCT14 7SE	United Kingdom	24/01/2015

Candice Wang Sheffield EnglandS11 9jg United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Patricia Caffrey London EnglandN4 4ah United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Robert Samuelson Sheffield EnglandS72LW United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Stuart Clark Sheffield EnglandS119he United Kingdom 24/01/2015

catherine kelland Sheffield EnglandS11 9SD United Kingdom 24/01/2015

caroline wheatley Heald Green Englandsk8 3pg United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Heather stroud Sheffield EnglandS118tx United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Christine Venables Sheffield EnglandS11 9BQ United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Jane McGilvray Perth Scotland PH1 2TW United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Mark Watkinson Sheffield EnglandS11 9jl United Kingdom 24/01/2015

Amanda curtis Sheffield EnglandS11 9lp United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Rebecca Renshaw Sheffield EnglandS11 8XSUnited Kingdom 25/01/2015

sarah lockwood Sheffield EnglandS7 1rw United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Rebecca Carman York EnglandYO31 9HU United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Richard Woodward Sheffield EnglandS119lp United Kingdom 25/01/2015

emma bennett Sheffield EnglandS8 0eb United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Debbie Mullins EnglandS11 7PEUnited Kingdom 25/01/2015

Elizabeth neale Sheffield EnglandS11 7pe United Kingdom 25/01/2015

louise colegate Sheffield EnglandS117ln United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Zoe Hollings Sheffield EnglandS72he United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Sophie Mellor Sheffield EnglandS11 9NR United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Lucy Hogarth Sheffield EnglandS11 9RS United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Nancy Hortonl Sheffield EnglandS11 9HY United Kingdom 25/01/2015

catherine Landon Combe Down EnglandBA2 5DJ United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Caroline Vaughan Sheffield EnglandS7 2ls United Kingdom 25/01/2015

Sarah Dale Sheffield EnglandS7 2LL United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Jonathan Goring Sheffield EnglandS17 3QR United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Gemma Harrison Sheffield EnglandS11 7LT United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Emma Thackeray Sheffield EnglandS 7 2LX United Kingdom 26/01/2015

David Green Sheffield EnglandS8 8QQ United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Sally marshall Sheffield EnglandS7 2nd United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Shuko CONQ Sheffield EnglandS11 7GD United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Fabrice CONQ Sheffield EnglandS11 7GD United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Anne Hollows Sheffield EnglandS7 2GZ United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Shelley Mulholland Sheffield EnglandS10 2QN United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Richard Rogers Derby EnglandDE73 6RE United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Steven HEARNE Doncaster EnglandDN11 9JL United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Alexander Valliant Salford EnglandM3 5JB United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Cate Turner Christchurch EnglandBH23 1ES United Kingdom 26/01/2015

ben ablett Sheffield EnglandS7 2LE United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Tom Rubens London EnglandN4 2HN United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Martin Stephens coventry Englandcv34bw United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Nicola Thompson Nee-Hyde Sheffield EnglandS11 9LF United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Heather Walker Skipton EnglandBD235BY United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Victoria li Sheffield Englands11 United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Eamonn Cox Sheffield EnglandS7 2ND United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Andrew Johnston Sheffield EnglandS11 7LL United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Andy Wilson Sheffield EnglandS7 2gj United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Gareth Jones EnglandS11 9AQ United Kingdom 26/01/2015

lucy edwards Sheffield EnglandS6 5bj United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Rebecca Askgam Sheffield EnglandS11 7ps United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Amanda Drewett Sheffield EnglandS11 7LL United Kingdom 26/01/2015

██████████ Sheffield EnglandS11 ██████ United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Sam Dexter Barnsley EnglandS712AT United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Lynn Jowitt Chesterfield EnglandS40 2rs United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Sarah Durrant Sheffield EnglandS11 9HN United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Ann Wheatley Sheffield EnglandS10 3TQ United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Sarah Disney Sheffield Englands11 9nj United Kingdom 26/01/2015

Jessie Worley Sheffield EnglandS7 2LJ United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Amber H Telford EnglandTf3 1ud United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Samuel McLean Glasgow Scotland G52 2DY United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Sarah O'Connor Sheffield Englands11 7PB United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Joseph Hendry Musselburgh Scotland EH216RR United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Maureen Mayers Limsfield EnglandRH8 0 DT United Kingdom 27/01/2015

paula maddison Preston Englandpr1 5yj United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Carl Taylor Sheffield EnglandS7 2LJ United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Elizabeth Priest sheffield Englands11 7pb United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Michael Hunt Sheffield EnglandS7 2GG United Kingdom 27/01/2015

Alison heath	Sheffield	Englands11 7rr	United Kingdom 27/01/2015
Sam Royle	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2HB	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Philip mellor	Sheffield	EnglandS119NR	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Dobcroft Parents Against Expansion	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9NJ	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Sam Lin 谢菲尔德	EnglandS7 2LL	United Kingdom	28/01/2015
Praveen Thyarappa	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1NW	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
David Evans	Sheffield	EnglandS72he	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Dean Jones	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9FT	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Jenny Ryder	Sheffield	EnglandS6 3JH	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Kara Wildsmith	Rotherham	EnglandS65 3DY	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
sharon Higgs	Sheffield	EnglandS35 2WQ	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Kay Jeffrey	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8YH	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Karen Beddall	Sheffield	EnglandS17 3NJ	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Louise Chenery	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9sq	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
claire slade	Sheffield	EnglandS35 4ds	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Helen Bowden	Dorridge	Englandb938nu	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Rebecca Rutherford	Hook Norton	EnglandOx155lg	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Angie Wright	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7 rh	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Fran Kerr	Dukinfield	EnglandSK16 5AN	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Kathryn Taylor	Sheffield	EnglandS17 3DH	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Amanda russell	Sheffield	Englands11 7pe	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
jane oakley	Sheffield	Englands88jg	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Katie Haigh	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2LS	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Jukes Mackle	Bournemouth	EnglandBh65jh	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
sky cowell	Newcastle upon Tyne	Englandne5 3pa	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Janine scott	Sheffield	Englands17 4hb	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
lauren theaker	Sheffield	EnglandS2 3bj	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Adrian Shipley	Sheffield	EnglandS17 4FH	United Kingdom 28/01/2015
Ruth winter	Sheffield	Englands7 2lp	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Gaynor Wilson	Sheffield	Englands11 9ea	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Laura Watts	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2DF	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Katie Vernon	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7 RN	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
lynne Prince	Sheffield	Englands119sp	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Sarah Vernon	Sheffield	Englands11 9sp	United Kingdom 29/01/2015

Alan Pedlar	Bollington	EnglandSK10 5NE	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Jo Bonnett	Sheffield	EnglandS119rh	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Emma Fry	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9SE	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Dawn Blackwell	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7lb	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Adam Blackwell	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LB	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Emma thomson	Sheffield	EnglandS117jq	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
pauline pedlar	macclesfield	EnglandSK10 9NE	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Julie Robinson	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2GT	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Linda Windle	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7Ph	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Jan williams	Sheffield	EnglandS8 8DY	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
toby vernon	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9sp	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Nicola Bussey	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7PJ	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
MELISSA WINDLE	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7PJ	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Daniel Priest	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7PB	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Abi Vedder	Sheffield	EnglandS8 9EB	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Samantha cockayne	Sheffield	EnglandS117le	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Sarah watson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7le	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Cath Wheen	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7JZ	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Laura Williams	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2DT	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Tracy bush	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9bb	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
matthew bush	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9bb	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Jo Warnock	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9SN	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Christopher Kelland	Bristol	EnglandBs15 3sf	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Catherine Pollitt	Littleborough	EnglandOL15 9JE	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Edward Weathmell	Mirfield	EnglandWF14 9Tf	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Raymond Guthrie	Reading	EnglandRG4 5DT	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Suzanne Darby	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7RB	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Andrew New	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9pu	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Faye Wood	Sheffield	EnglandS8 9eb	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Sharon McKeown	Richmond	EnglandTW10 6AD	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Laura Kerr	Sheffield	EnglandS7 1RJ	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Lisa Ollerenshaw	Burton Joyce	EnglandNG14 5DX	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Alison McCloy	Ilkley	EnglandLS29 9QP	United Kingdom 29/01/2015
Rachel Cadman	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LH	United Kingdom 29/01/2015

Kirsty Price	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9FT	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Chris Hart		6725	Australia	30/01/2015
Michelle Pedlow	Leiden		Netherlands	30/01/2015
Caroline Tompkins	Newcastle upon Tyne	EnglandNE3 4XD	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Barbara Bush	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8UT	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Jane Robinson	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Julie Brown	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7AQ	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Tina Peacock	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7ra	United Kingdom	30/01/2015
Victoria Boyne	Sheffield	EnglandS11	United Kingdom	31/01/2015
Zoe Bell	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8YA	United Kingdom	31/01/2015
Jemma Taylor	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7lq	United Kingdom	31/01/2015
Alexandra McNeil	Airdrie	EnglandS40	United Kingdom	01/02/2015
Heather Bulfin	Belfast	Northern Ireland BT10 0FY	United Kingdom	02/02/2015
Ben Hudd	Sheffield	Southgrove Road	United Kingdom	02/02/2015
Jamie Reay	London	EnglandN4 3RA	United Kingdom	02/02/2015
Amber Sheridan	Sheffield	EnglandS17 3QP	United Kingdom	03/02/2015
Jane avgousti	Sheffield	EnglandS119HN	United Kingdom	03/02/2015
Sarah Bradley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8SB	United Kingdom	04/02/2015
David Prosser	Whitley Bay	EnglandNE26 2EG	United Kingdom	04/02/2015
Clare Hall	London	EnglandSW19 8JT	United Kingdom	04/02/2015
Emma Drury	Sheffield	EnglandS11 8XL	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
Debra warren	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9ny	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
Dominic Britt	Sheffield	EnglandS7 2ly	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
Helen stanley	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9rb	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
Helen McDonough	Sheffield	EnglandS72lf	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
Thelma Britt	Christchurch	8013	New Zealand	05/02/2015
Kathryn Yousaf	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9HP	United Kingdom	05/02/2015
John Goepel	Sheffield	EnglandS10 5FB	United Kingdom	06/02/2015
Louise Kent	Sheffield	EnglandS11 9he	United Kingdom	09/02/2015
Claire Turnbull	Sheffield	EnglandS11 7LJ	United Kingdom	09/02/2015
Helen Kay	Sheffield	EnglandS8 8qp	United Kingdom	09/02/2015
Ceri Robertson	Sheffield	EnglandS118DB	United Kingdom	09/02/2015
Richard Coldwell	Sheffield	EnglandS119pw	United Kingdom	09/02/2015
claire roberts	Banbury	EnglandOX16 9TL	United Kingdom	10/02/2015



Lyuba Alboul	Sheffield	England	S8 9HW	United Kingdom	10/02/2015
turan zorlu	London	England	n1 6 rb	United Kingdom	10/02/2015
Maria Preston	Dalkeith	Scotland	EH22 2RB	United Kingdom	10/02/2015
Anthony Leary	Ash Vale	England	GU12 5SN	United Kingdom	10/02/2015

# Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
fiona greenall	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-18	I currently have a child at Clifford (y1), Ecclesall juniors (y6),High Storns(y7) and a child due to start Clifford in September 2016 I am seriously considered about the lack of school places in local areas and completely support Clifford suggestions of expanding to a straight through infant/junior school Not only do I think the School is outstanding(my eldest two children both attended Clifford) it would alleviate some of the problem in the local it would offer continuity for our children which because of the Clifford standards can only be positive for our children.
Jen Hardy	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-18	Our children merit the right to be educated in the same school as their siblings and to continue their education in Clifford as a through school - we need more school places than just at Dobcroft infants, and we need a longer term view. Thank you for listening.
Matthew Hardy	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-18	Primary school places are needed where the deficit locally is greatest. In addition to Dobcroft we believe that additional places at Ecclesall Infants and a Clifford through school will give our children the local education opportunities they deserve. Thank you.
Carly Cotton	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	This is an obvious resolution to the current problem and has my full support.
Louise Platts	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	Clifford could be a through primary as the site is available opposite.
Nicole Brown	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I am concerned for members of the local community who are desperate for their children to attend their local, catchment school.
Corinne O'Neill	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	sheffield council need to be advised by people in education, to make sensible decisions
Joanne Friend	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	The same thing happened when my son started Ecclesall infants back in 2008 - not enough places. This is just going to keep happening and so the issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible.
Margaret Beck	Mitford, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	This situation is mirrored in many areas of the country. The organisers of this petition have my full support and admiration for their concern with not only their own children but others children
Nic Price	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	The anxiety I experienced about whether my son would go to his local school was completely unnecessary. It should be truly exceptional to not take pupils from catchment. That some will not get places because of lack of planning is just nonsense.
lisa cook	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	My son already goes to this school and hopefully my daughter will in the future. We live in the catchment area and so it is our local school. However, I am concerned about the proposed increase in number of classrooms. Compared to ecclesall school the children have very little outdoor space as it is... surely if they are over subscribed it would make more sense to add the classrooms there?

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Katie McCabe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	Using Dobcroft school as a temporary or permanent fix to the shortage of primary school places in the South West of the City is wholly inappropriate. It illustrates a knee jerk reaction from Sheffield City Council to a problem that they have been aware of for years. Birth rates don't rise sharply overnight illustrating an incompetent level of planning and preparation. Dobcroft school already operates over its capacity. I have a son in Y1 & a son who will hopefully be in the 2016 cohort. Taking away current learning areas and 'shoe-horning' another 30 children into the school by Sept 2015 with a potential for 90 children by 2017 is an absolute disgrace! Have the council actually thought where these children are going to go and how educational achievement can be maintained? Surely there is a statutory obligation to provide basic needs like enough toilets for the children and assess the health & safety implications of the 2015/2016 plans. Furthermore, if Ecclesall / Clifford Infant school feel that the expansion would be best placed there why let the Council impose such unrealistic changes on Dobcroft school.
Alexander McCabe	Paistry, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I am a concerned grandparent. One grandson goes to Dobcroft at present and the other goes soon. The proposal to add an extra class at Dobcroft on a temporary basis is ludicrous.
Jean Hayes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	An ill thought through fast track by the Council to attempt to resolve such a crisis in school places in Sheffield thoroughly deserves criticism at many levels. All children deserve the highest quality education to be delivered in their local area in buildings with space and resources to ensure teaching and learning is effective. How possibly can overcrowding at Dobcroft be of educational value to existing children or the proposed additional cohort? Clearly there are children in closer proximity to Clifford and Ecclesall who would also be better served by expanding these schools. The LA are moving forward with no regard to due consideration of the concerns of Parents, Carers and local Communities. If feasibility studies are required to ensure longer term quality of provision, increased road traffic issues and appropriate learning space indoors and outdoors, how then is this possible to totally disregard in plans for 2015? It is unacceptable that Elected Members have failed to scrutinise these plans and allowed them to be presented as a "done deal"! To those members the message is that All our children deserve better!
katharine crabbe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	Clifford Infant school provides the ideal environment for children in their early years of learning both in learning and environment. The school has the capability of expanding without compromising on outdoor space. It would also mean that children would not have long distances to travel as they would be offered a place in their local area. This would avoid added stress to both children and parents of added travel time, congestion on roads etc. (many children at clifford have the opportunity to walk or cycle to school) May activities at the school encourages the children to be aware and be part of their local community too. By making children travel further afield to go to school, you are distancing them from participating and being aware of their local community, congesting roads as they will not have the opportunity to walk or cycle to school, making the school day even longer for the child.
janette loden	Allerton, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	This has an effect on my grand children's education and future.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Laurien Smith	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I disagree with the proposed expansion of Dobcroft. The Infants is an already busy school with 270 children in a small building with a very small playground space. Increasing the number of children in each group to 120 will put stressful pressures upon young children, forcing them to attend school in cramped conditions, which is far from ideal in these important first years of education. The local area will certainly not be able to cope with the increased traffic demands the expansion will put upon the immediate surroundings. As this petition points out, there are other schools which are better placed and have the space to accommodate more children. Why ask Dobcroft to take on more children when they are already undersubscribed and can offer 14 children a place who are out of catchment?
Jodie Thake	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I'm a parent of children at Dobcroft Infant School, and increasing our intake permanently is unfeasible.
Annwen Stone	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I want children to receive quality education in their local area.
Dominic Hayes	Bakewell, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	I think the council is expanding the wrong school against the wishes of many parents and local residents. The present solution from the council serves the existing students poorly and the students in need of places who according to the council's figures mainly live in other school catchments equally inadequately. It looks like a very unsophisticated attempt at social engineering by a council primarily concerned with left wing ideology rather than children's actual welfare. I would certainly challenge the decision legally on the basis of failure in duty of care for my own child's education if they attended Dobcroft school. There are clear options which present benefits to all and savings to the tax payer, as such that last point will lead me to try and involve the taxpayer watchdog bodies and the Communities and Education Secretaries of State.
Sophie bradey	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	My daughter is due to join school 2016.
Demelza Lee	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-19	Expansion of Clifford Infant School into a through Primary is the best option for the local community, families, but most importantly the children who deserve a continuous stable education where they can attend the local school. The site is ideal without compromising existing space and is the best long-term solution for families in the area.  The Council are not looking at the bigger picture and despite having considerable foresight with birth statistics they have let our children down by failing to plan accordingly.
Valerie Hobbs	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	Children should be able to attend a school in their own community
Helen Pennington	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	This proposal makes sense in every respect. Space is available and parental support for making Clifford a through primary school is strong.
Florence ij Ugbelase	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	The priorities in this proposal by the Local Authorities though quite genuine appear to be misplaced. What should be done? Create the spaces where expansion is realistic and appropriate and most importantly, where access poses the least challenge to families. With this in mind I believe that expanding both Clifford Infant School and Ecclesall Infants to provide more primary school places is a more sensible thing to do.
Sarah Goodhart	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I strongly support the idea to expand Ecclesall infants and expand Clifford school into a junior phase.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Liz Dracas	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	Children need to be educated near. To where they live to build local friendships and parents do not deserve the worry of whether their children can get into a local school.
Catherine Liley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I am a parent at Dobcroft where expansion is being forced on us with no room. Please allow expansion at these schools who are asking for it.
Helen Winter	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I am extremely concerned that the proposed expansion of Dobcroft Infant (and then Junior) school will have a huge negative impact on my children currently attending Dobcroft in terms of disruption and loss of non academic and playground space. These features are vital if a school is aiming to offer a pleasant and well rounded educational experience. The school sites are already very crowded, with temporary classrooms in the school grounds- there simply isn't room for any more classroom, toilet and coat hanging facilities etc etc.
rob liley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I agree entirely with the eloquent argument in the main text.
Jule Saunby	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I feel there isn't the room in the school therefore affecting health and safety of the children. It will cause more problems with parking which again will put children's safety at high risk!! It's already a problem it should be for children in catch!!
elizabeth hooper	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	Worry about the number of cars by Dobcroft already with 3 schools close by. The loss of outside teaching space & playing areas.
Lynda Hewson	Loxley, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I don't want my grandchildren to be denied a place at their local school, also the buildings around Clifford would be great for a feeder school.
Alexandra Harrison	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	This is an ongoing problem every year!!
Michael Elliott	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	Expansion at Dobcroft is totally inappropriate - a 4 class intake is excessive for an infant/junior school and is impractical both in terms of infrastructure and fostering an inclusive whole school environment (i.e. Whole year class plays, assemblies, etc...). There are other schools better placed for expansion.
liss Hollingworth	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	I am a parent of a pupil in Y1 at Dobcroft school. I feel very concerned about the school size increasing, with loss of vital outdoor space, especially when a viable alternative is available by expanding Ecclesall and Clifford, and thus creating spaces for pupils in catchment. Expanding Dobcroft is not necessary in light it was still able to accept pupils out of catchment.
Amanda Strine	SHEFFIELD, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	Expanding Clifford is a fantastic idea. Children should be able to attend school in their catchment area where their community is.
jean Wood	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	It makes no sense to NOT increase the size of the schools who want to increase their numbers and IMPOSE an increase on a school that has good reasons not to increase its numbers. WHY??

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Chris Saunby	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	<p>The council were well aware that the over-crowding situation was upon us, yet have sprung this decision to give us an extra class in 2015 from nowhere, and given no outlet to oppose the decision.</p> <p>We already have 2 of our 9 classes in temporary accommodation in a cramped area at the back of the school. Adding an extra class in September, and subsequently 90 extra children in the school in 3 years' time would be unmanageable on the current site.</p> <p>Those children will be feeding through to the junior school, who in turn already have classes in temporary accommodation. Where would the extra classes go? Would the junior school lose their playing field? If they go double storey that would mean a huge amount of disruption to the current cohort, and consequently have a huge affect on their learning and well-being.</p> <p>The toilet facilities are currently being updated, but are still insufficient for the current number of children. Adding an extra 30 to the cloakroom area would make it cramped and unsafe.</p> <p>The school already have to stagger lunch times to enable all children to be seated to have their lunch. An extra 90 children in 3 years' time would be unmanageable. The hall itself is already cramped for school plays and festival celebrations, would that mean children would have to miss out on the enriched curriculum they currently enjoy, and for which the school is championed?</p> <p>A huge amount of extra traffic will be accessing the school should this proposal be accepted. The alley into school is already tight for space, more traffic down it will be unsafe. Parking is already difficult for parents, and upsets local residents as it is.</p> <p>Looking at the figures the council have provided, it actually doesn't suggest the school will be any more oversubscribed than the surrounding schools, so why chose us to accommodate the extra pupils?</p> <p>Siblings of those children out of catchment accepted in 2015 will be filtering through the school in subsequent years, which could effectively mean children currently in catchment could be left without a place.</p>
Rebecca Syman	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	<p>My daughter will be starting school in September 2016 and I obviously want her to be able to go to school locally.</p>
Brenda Thompson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	<p>I'm signing this because primary school age children should attend their local school not travelling yo other parts of the city.</p>
Simon McCabe	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	<p>Dobcroft is not suitable for this expansion. There are already too many children on site and to add more would be a mistake. The roads surrounding Dobcroft are already too busy and to add more traffic is dangerous. The plans to expand Ecclesall Infant School are supported by parents and teachers alike. A much more suitable development.</p>
Steve Barker	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-20	<p>An ill thought through and unworkable proposal. If one school wants the development and another doesn't and both are as good as equidistant to the area of need it is silly not to listen to the voices of those that want the extra classes i.e. Ecclesall.</p>

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Vicki Peacock	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	In addition to the relevant arguments laid out in this petition, I have serious concerns about the impact of any expansions to Dobcroft on both schools increasing number of SEN pupils. Expanding both schools will inevitably mean using areas which are at present available as much needed break out spaces for children with additional needs. Both schools currently pride themselves as being inclusive. Vulnerable children will not be catered for if all areas are overcrowded and there is nowhere left for them to retreat to. The schools already have limited areas available for small group work, reading support, etc. SEN needs must be considered within this whole procedure as well. Otherwise the council will be creating another problem of mainstream school no longer being appropriate for these children.
Julia Leatherland	sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	I don't believe that using valuable non-classroom space at Dobcroft to teach another 30 children is a good solution either short or long-term and does not reduce the need for additional school places in the areas most over subscribed. The non-teaching spaces at Dobcroft are vital for children who need to be withdrawn from their classroom for whatever reason during the school day and it would prejudice the education of all children to reduce the availability of such space making the successful inclusion of children with additional needs (of whom there are many) more difficult if not impossible to achieve.
Angela Larkin	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	I am signing because I am in disagreement with making primary school intakes 120 per year. It changes the experience of school for 4 year olds. When there are options to expand other local schools that only have intakes of 30 or 60 these should be considered as preferable.
Jessica Rosa	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	I'm concerned about school places in these areas as I have 3 children and live in netheredge.
Elizabeth Brough	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	My Son is due to start school in Greystones in Sep 17 intake
Tony Norman	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	Expanding Dobcroft is not the best or the right option and I am very concerned at the impact it will have on all the children there. Not just my own. There is also talk of losing the library to create a classroom. How do the Authority expect reading standards to be raised if they remove this facility.
julie eades	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	we need 24 extra places at ecclesall infants - that is we need another class
Sarah King	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-21	I am starting a separate but complementary petition for dobcroft parents together with five others - could we speak to get your advice. Pls email me. Best wishes sarah
Sarah Clarke	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I think it makes sense. Clifford school is in a much more central location for the over subscribed schools.
Laurence Mosley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I don't think this is the best option for children or parents in the area. I also think the consultation document is very poor. Greystones is expanding and academically is poor performing. Clifford is very good, better than all other local primaries.
Jon Bradley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	The current plans don't seem to offer the best solution for children (like mine) around S11
Mihaela Roxana Cremeiciug Pelin	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I am signing this petition because I understand the need of expanding Ecclesall Infant School and Clifford Infant School.
michael joyce	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	Clifford is a wonderful school with excellent staff. Not to expand upon this would be negligent.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Chris Fry	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I believe that the proposition in the current consultation is too narrow, the data is poor, there is a lack of any impact assessment and too short a timescale to allow for a meaningful and lawful consultation process in any event. The Clifford/Ecclesall option should be given an opportunity to be explored more fully.
Emma Bohan	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I live in the area and know we need more school places.
antje pieper	sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	The figures do not add up... Ecclesall infant school has enormous space and capacity to expand!
Jackie Fry	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	I care about creating new primary school places for our children
Angela Fry	Dronfield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	My Grand children deserve to have the same standard of education that my children had in Ecclesall. This will become highly unlikely if the council refuse to provide the right environment, conducive to quality learning. A thorough review of primary education services is needed.
Christopher Medd	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	The Dobcroft site is already full, and further expansion of both infant and junior schools will lead to loss of playground space, and in the case of the junior school, the playing field. It makes no sense to oversupply places in one school, where expansion at Clifford and Ecclesall, although initially more expensive, will provide a better and fairer outcome in the long term.
nicola medd	stoke on trent, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	It sounds like the council are wanting to create spaces in the wrong places. We know how valuable it is being able to attend your local school and the Council's solution does not appear to be the one that will allow this to happen the most. The creation of a 4 class intake at the Dobcroft schools will have a profound effect on the school's atmosphere and ability to provide individualised support. The increased traffic will be significant in the surrounding roads especially if children are coming from out of the catchment area.
Emma Farrell	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-22	This is a sensible way to future plan for increased school numbers - it makes a LOT of sense
Sally Hunter	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	As a non-driver, if my son cannot get a place at a local school he may be sent somewhere I simply cannot get him to.
judith morris	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	We regularly take and collect our granddaughters and are concerned that the playground areas are already too small, the prefab classrooms are too small. Young children need space to run around safely adding another 90 children (over 3 years) will cause more playground accidents and add stress to children trying to cope with overcrowding.
Emma Garrow	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I am a local parent of school age and coming up to school age children. I see this as a fair and workable suggestion which will prove effective in the long term.
June Harris	London, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	My grandson attends Clifford primary and a brilliant school
Gail Cox	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	As a resident close to Dobcroft Infant and Junior School the existing traffic and parking at drop off and pick up times is a risk to existing pupils and an inconvenience to local residents. The increase in non catchment places will exacerbate the situation.
louise fear	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	the city needs a new school in order to be proactive and not reactive
Robert Wilson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	The expansion at Dobcroft makes no logical sense given the request by other schools to expand. The Dobcroft school site is already crowded and an extension will cause a number of problems.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Heathel Hughes	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	This is a sensible and well thought through proposal that will help ease the situation and provide additional capacity where it is needed. I support this.  Also as a Dabcroft parent I urge the council to look at where capacity is needed (Dobcroft has catchment capacity) and put it where needed. Before creating year groups of 120 children in one school look at other options at Holt House/caryerknowle.
Dylan Hughed	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I am a concerned parent
Amry Clark	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	Children shouldn't have to be traveling to schools far from their home.expand the right school for the right people not just because a school is rated well with ofsted
Hannah Edwards	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	Expansion of schools that will not cause significant disruption to current pupils and provides a more sustainable expansion in the area that has the highest surplus is surely the most sensible option.
Amanda Russell	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-23	I want my youngest child to go to her local school in our catchment area.
Beri Higgins	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	I am concerned that 120 intake is too many for a primary school. My major objection is the traffic issue that the increase to Dobcroft will cause in the local area where it is already a problem, especially when Dobcroft should not be oversubscribed (from catchment) this year. The alternative proposition seems to make more sense increasing Clifford that has no catchment area and can take any over spill and increasing Ecclesall that will be massively oversubscribed.
Melvyn White	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	My grandchildren attend the school!!
Nita White	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	Dobcroft does not have facility to expand and is already taking children from out of catchment area - however, there is adequate space for expansion at Clifford & Ecclesall schools and their requests for this should go ahead.
Louise Jones	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	We are located equidistant between 4 schools - 3 of which (including the catchment school and the school my son is at) do not have enough places for catchment children. Dobcroft already uses temporary buildings and it is not desirable for our children to be shoehorned into schools when there are other schools that could be expanded. It would surely make sense to expand Ecclesall Infants and Clifford if this is possible.
Charlotte Richardson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	We are in catchment but may miss out due to lack of places
Chris Venables	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-24	A through school at Clifford would be beneficial to lots of local children who currently have to travel some distance to Ecclesall Juniors or Hunter's Bar. There would be sufficient time to make the alterations without much disruption and it would make good use of council property (SIC building).
Rebecca Renshaw	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	There is more need for Primary places at Ecclesall Junior Clifford is such a good school and the pupils need a Feeder school that has enough places my daughter will cry her eyes out she loves her friends so much
sarah lockwood	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	This has been an on going and growing problem for several years now. My daughter did not get into her chosen school in 2010 due to a shortfall in places. I want my son to join his sister at Ecclesall. More school places are needed in this part of the city.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Richard Woodward	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	Plan appears if considered and does not fulfill the need. Also what is to happen re secondary school places as a consequence?
Nancy Horton	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-25	There does not seem to have been enough thought into making places available to children at their LOCAL school. Children should be able to walk to a close by school.
Gemma Harrison	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	Our children reserve the right to go to school in their catchment area, this plan would see this happen.
Anne Hollows	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I believe that the most effective way to create additional places would be the development of Clifford school as a through primary.
Shelley Mulholland	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	I'm signing because this seems an eminently sensible, logical and practically feasible way to respond to the increasing demand for places in this part of the city.
Eamonn Cox	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	Build where the capacity is required. It can not be reasonable from an environmental, health and safety and social wellbeing of the children to force them to travel to school by car every day, as most out of catchment will invariably do. In addition, this area is already gridlocked twice every day with illegal parking only intermittently dealt with.
Andrew Johnston	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	There is a real need to sort out the provision of school places in this area. Local kids need to go to local schools - or do we want more traffic on the roads criss-crossing the city each morning on the school run.
	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	The only way for our kids to grow into stable, kind, good citizens is when they go to good school and acquire a sense of community. There won't be any community if one school only is expanding to the detriment of others. Ecclesall and Clifford should also expand and offer places to children who want a sense of belonging. The confidence and ability to be a good person come only when there is a strong base provided by good teachers. This is impossible to achieve in a school with too many classes.
Ann Wheatley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-26	It makes more sense than trying to cram more classes into the already overcrowded Dobcroft school site.
Carl Taylor	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	It make more sense than expanding Dobcroft!
Alison Heath	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-27	I have a child due to start reception in September 2015. I am in the catchment area for Ecclesall Infants and am concerned that I will not be able to send my child to our local school, which is within 10minutes walking distance, and will instead have to send him to another school not in our catchment area. All of which are a 10minute drive instead of a 10minute walk. My child has several friends who are at the same pre school, it will be a worry to me if he doesn't get to go to school with his peers.
Sam Foyle	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	This proposal makes sense, whereas the Dobcroft expansion does not.
Dobcroft Parents Against Expansion	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	Hi, I support the petition 100%. Please can you email me so we can share ideas! dpae2015-16outlook.com (creator of Dobcroft petition)! Look forward to hearing from you.
Sam Lin	• 菲 • 德, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	these schools only have 60 places in each year group, they need to expand to take more local children.
Dean Jones	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	The rationale for expanding Ecclesall Infant School is very clearly justified and approving this will give Sheffield City Council the growing capacity both rising birth rates and in-migration will require in coming years.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Angie Wnght	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	I want all my children to attend our local school
Fran Kerr	Dukinfield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	It's important to try to accommodate primary pupils in catchment areas. Being local, walking to school, not having long journeys and - most importantly - being placed alongside siblings are very important for young children and their families.
Kathryn Taylor	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	We recently moved from this area to S17 and we went through the ordeal of our child not getting our local catchment school place due to over subscription. This proposal makes a lot of sense and will prevent more families going through the same rejection as we did.
amanda russell	sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	i want my child to go to her local school
Janne scott	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	schools are heavily over subscribed in south west sheffield.
Adrian Shipley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-28	School places need to be provided for pupils who reside in the locality and not from other areas in the city
lynne Prince	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	This is been building up over a few years and needs dealing with. This shouldn't become a problem in the year of reception class application - these excessive catchment numbers are entirely predictable from health visitor records and there really needs to be more planning ahead.
Sarah Vernon	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I desperately want my child to attend Ecclesall infants in 2015. His brother attended this school (now at Ecclesall Juniors) and we live in catchment so the thought of my child not getting a place is horrible.
Alan Pedlar	Bollington, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I'm a Grandparent with a Granddaughter at Eccleshall infants, and a grandson who we would like to have a place there next year.
Jo Bonnett	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I have one child at Ecclesall and another due to start ! Would be a nightmare if I have to do school drop off at two different schools. I really really want my daughter to go to school with her brother and all of her friends thanks !
Dawn Blackwell	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I want my daughter to be able to attend her local school, Ecclesall infants and juniors, just like her brothers.
pauline pedlar	macclesfield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	my grand daughter attends Eccleshall infants and it would be really difficult for us to pick-up and drop off both her and her brother from different schools when he starts in sept.
Linda Windle	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	my children and grandchildren have attended Ecclesall Infant and Juniors for the last 38 years and would like it to continue
Jan Williams	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	my daughter lives in this area and is due to apply for an infant school place in September. She was unable to get a preschool place in her area and fears it will be the same for infant school
toby vernon	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	we live in catchment and we need to secure a place for our 2nd child
MELISSA WINDLE	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	We moved house as we wanted both our children to go to Ecclesall school. My husband, his sister and all my eldest sons cousins. I would be extremely upset if my boys could not attend.
Sarah watson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	i live in this catchment and I want to walk my children to school, not drive!
Laura Williams	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	Due to living in the catchment area of one of the over subscribed schools.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Raymond Guthrie	Reading, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I am signing this as a former primary specialist of 40 years experience and being aware that this is too large an arrangement for maximum effective education for the age range. R Guthrie
Faye Wood	Dronfield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I will move to the area when my child is ready for school
Rachel Cadman	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-29	I'm signing because I have had children who have attended Ecclesall Infant school and I would have been gutted if they had not enough room as it is our catchment school and an excellent school.
Kirsty Price	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	The current plan to increase the intake of Dobcroft is not a permanent solution. It has a large number of children and feels cramped in the classrooms. There is a body of evidence to indicate younger children especially do better in smaller educational settings.  As there is no specific catchment for Clifford the school reaches more children and makes sense to follow this through with a primary school. The school's child focused approach would benefit the pupils more than squeezing them into an already large school.
Caroline Tompkins	Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	it affects a friend's children
Jane Robinson	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-01-30	It would be great to see common sense prevailing. Council should put resources where there is already local support not antagonise their electorate with a poorly thought through 'solution'
Alexandra McNeil	Airdrie, United Kingdom	2015-02-01	I strongly feel that these two schools should be expanded to ensure children are able to obtain the education they are entitled to within the catchment area.
Ben Hudd	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-02	All deserve the best local choice and education possible.
Sarah Bradley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-04	The current plan seems like a "quick fix", leading to long term cramped conditions, and negatively affect children in Sharrow and nearer to town. My youngest will also be affected by this change, and would find it difficult to follow the educational path set by her siblings. Many friends would also struggle with this change.  Clifford is an excellent school and I would dearly love my children to (have) attended) right the way to secondary school.
David Prosser	Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom	2015-02-04	I'm considering moving to the Sheffield area, and this would have an impact on whether to choose Sheffield or it's surrounds.
Emma Drury	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-05	I agree wholeheartedly
Dominic Britt	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-05	Can't understand logic behind this decision and will provide more constraints on space for this school by adding 100 extra children after 3 years with no extra classrooms
Helen Stanley	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-05	An intake of 120 at Dobcroft for Sept 2015 is far too many for a quality of care and teaching to be sustained. The common areas including dining hall, playgrounds and library areas etc will be over crowded and suffer with the greater numbers.
Thelma Britt	Christchurch, New Zealand	2015-02-05	I'm signing because my grandchildren go to Dobcroft school and they deserve the right to the best education experience possible. Take advice from the school staff not your accountants
Name	Location	Date	Comment
Claire Turnbull	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-09	Expanding Ecclesall Infants and making Clifford a through primary school makes so much more sense than making Dobcroft ridiculously big and crowded. The space is there so why not use it?
Richard Coldwell	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-09	The Council do not seem to have fully considered all issues to address school placed needs in SW Sheffield
Lyuba About	Sheffield, United Kingdom	2015-02-10	I am signing because the reasons provided are valid. Children need not only classrooms but also non-classroom spaces and outside space- to play and for other activities.  I also know the Clifford school.