

Summerhill School  
A Specialist Language College

Lodge Lane, Kingswinford, West Midlands, DY6 9XE  
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Headteacher: Mr B Warren BA MA (Ed)

Copy MWR  
APPENDIX 2C:1



Mrs L Roden  
Clerk to the Governors  
Old Swinford Hospital School  
Heath Lane  
Stourbridge  
West Midlands  
DY8 1QX

13 July 2006

Dear Mrs Roden

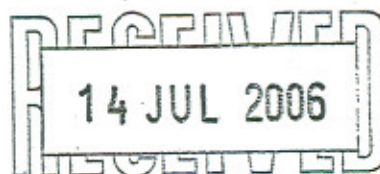
It is with some concern that I read of the decision to allow Old Swinford Hospital School to expand in numbers. At a time when secondary schools in Dudley face closure and headteachers are under ever greater pressure to deliver results, to allow a selective intake school to expand seems to fly in the face of an overview of the whole system.

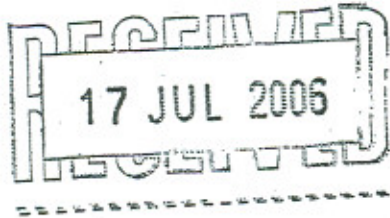
My experience of working in three other local authorities before moving to Dudley is that selective intake schools have a clear, strong and actively negative effect on surrounding schools. They drain them of their brightest and best and reduce the chances of other schools having the vital "critical mass" of students in every class who are strongly motivated to achieve.

I fear this decision will have a damaging impact for other schools in the area around Oldswinford or even further afield.

Yours sincerely

Mr B Warren  
Headteacher





# HAYBRIDGE

HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM  
BRAKE LANE, HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE, DY8 2XS  
Headteacher: **Dr M J Kershaw OBE**

Copy M/W

Mrs L Roden  
Clerk to the Governors  
Old Swinford Hospital  
Heath Lane  
Stourbridge  
DY8 1QX

12<sup>th</sup> July 2006

Dear Mrs Roden

I wish to respond to the Consultation about Expanding Popular and Successful Schools Scheme. As a neighbouring school I have to register my objection to your proposed enlargement. This will have consequences for neighbouring schools and the consequences are particularly acute given the selective nature of your admission process.

The argument is well rehearsed about the damage that such "creaming off" policies cause to genuine comprehensive schools. I believe it does harm to both pupils and schools involved.

I am afraid therefore I would wish to register my opposition.

Yours sincerely

*Melvyn Kershaw*

Melvyn Kershaw  
Headteacher

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Pupil Absence Line: (01384) 816350

Headteacher:  
Mr B Heavisides M.Phil. B.A B.Ed.



18<sup>th</sup> July 2006

→ PR

Mr Roffe  
Headmaster  
Oldswinford Hospital  
Heath Lane  
Stourbridge  
DY8 1QX

Dear Mr Roffe

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed expansion of Old Swinford Hospital School. The Governors at Redhill identify a number of concerns relating to this proposal. The main concern is that the school appears to be out of line with the Secondary School Review that is currently progressing in Dudley, and that to propose expansion at a time of falling pupil numbers across the borough is not helpful. In Stourbridge there is already a surplus capacity and should your school expand this will put even greater pressure on other local schools. The extra ten boys each year that are not boarders will significantly damage at least one of the Stourbridge schools and will also compound difficulties in already unbalanced population in the others. Ten extra bright boys mean simply ten less to us in our schools and this affects the balance of groups, particularly at the top end of the ability range.

Old Swinford Hospital School is a successful school and we appreciate why you might wish to expand. However, it is time for the school to be a greater point of a local provision and as such to see collaboration as central to the way forward. It is not professional collaboration to act in a way that will knowingly damage you local partners. We would urge you to reconsider the 'local day boys' expansion to prevent a potential schism in local co-operation and good will.

Yours sincerely



**B. Heavisides**  
**Headteacher**



Copy 17M  
APPENDIX 2C:4  
104 Wallons Road,  
Brierley Hill -  
West Midlands  
DY5 1HP.

RECEIVED

16 AUG 2006

12<sup>th</sup> August 2006

Old Swinford Hospital  
Heath Lane  
Stourbridge,  
DY8 1RX.

DES Expanding Popular & Successful School Scheme. MWRf

Dear Mrs Lynn Roden,

I think it is good to hear that even more children will be allowed to experience the teachings of a prestigious college such as yours. I know when your child desperately wants to attend a certain college & the spaces are limited, going through the formalities, the exam then the anxious wait & opening of that special letter that is going to fill you & your child with heartfelt disappointment or the sheer happiness that is going to affect the rest of your child's life, this is what we went through. Attending a good college is a good start to their life.

The only concern I have is will you be taking on extra teachers to allow for the extra students, otherwise the students teaching will suffer I feel.

I think the number of females you take on you should try and equal the count to the number of boys you have.

Good luck.

Yours faithfully,

Patel (Miss) (Shamir Patel's Mum - Baxter House)

APPENDIX 2C:5. = 7/12



# Community College

Stockwell Avenue, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 2NU

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DNM/CMMK

21 August 2006

25 AUG 2006

Mr M. Roffe  
Headmaster  
Old Swinford Hospital  
Heath Lane  
Stourbridge  
DY8 1QX

Dear Headmaster

## DfES Expanding Popular and Successful Schools Scheme - Consultation

Thank you for your letter regarding the expansion of Old Swinford Hospital under DfES regulations for popular schools.

I feel unable to comment on points one and two of your consultation. I do feel that an expression of any school in Dudley whilst the Local Authority are undertaking a review of secondary education focussed on cutting excess places this is a renegade and problematic change.

I recognise all the issues regarding the permission of backing, etc, but feel this should be done after the Local Authority programme is completed.

Yours sincerely

**Mr D. N. Mountney**  
**Principal**

Celebrating Success

