

Chief Executive Gavin Boyd



CEO 1483-5-18 CM/GMcM

10 May 2018

Ms Eilish McGoldrick
Democratic Services Officer
Belfast City Council
City Hall
BELFAST
BT1 5GS

Dear Ms McGoldrick

I refer to your letter dated 24 April 2018.

The Education Authority (EA) has not commenced a formal consultation process. Indeed in over 23 engagement sessions, the EA has made it clear to parents, schools, Boards of Governors and other elected representatives that we wish to:

- invest in the special schools' estate;
- redress the significant accommodation issues that have been identified in schools in the Belfast area which are negatively impacting on pupils and staff;
- create resources and facilities that are fit for purpose to meet the complex needs of our children and young people.

EA has also been actively engaged with elected representatives to address the misconceptions that have been reflected in the media which have unfortunately, caused significant stress and anxiety to parents and staff.

As the EA moves forward with this significant piece of work, we will of course, continue to engage with elected representatives in Belfast and other areas, as appropriate.

I trust that this clarifies the current position. I will be very happy to meet with you if you feel that a meeting would be beneficial.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Boyd', is written over a simple line drawing of a triangle.

GAVIN BOYD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Education Authority

40 Academy Street, Belfast, BT1 2NQ

T: +44 (0)28 9056 4000 F: +44 (0)28 9033 1714 W: www.eani.org.uk