

Mr M Gove MP
Conservative Party
30 Millbank
London SW1P 4DP

18/3/10

Dear Mr Gove

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOL CAMPAIGN (NSC) WANDSWORTH
A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR ALL LOCAL CHILDREN**

I am writing as a concerned parent and supporter of the NSC to ask what you can do to deliver our much needed secondary school if your party wins the election. As a parent I believe firmly in the principle of good local schools with children of all backgrounds being educated together on a 'socially inclusive' basis. Currently we have no such school in our community. This results in a lack of choice both on parental preference and standards grounds. As a result Year 6 children leaving the four local primary schools disperse to 49 different secondary schools.

I know that you will be receiving similar requests from other parent groups asking you to fund their own school. However, I hope you will agree that as our borough has the lowest record in the country of being offered our preferred school (ie, 48%) that our campaign should be an immediate priority for you. We are in effect bottom of the UK parental 'choice league'. I therefore ask you, if elected to power, to ensure that:

- Priority is given to our formal application for a secondary school with a pupil roll of 900 to be founded on the now empty Bolingbroke Hospital site in Wandsworth. The site is currently owned by the St Georges Healthcare NHS Trust;
- Active negotiation is started with the NHS Trust to make the case for school use of the empty Bolingbroke Hospital site – a new local school that would become a keystone of our community;
- Adequate matched capital funding is made available to our preferred education provider;
- Wandsworth council is encouraged to support delivery of our school on an ongoing and pro active basis - as they have done so to date.

I hope that you will support the above recommendations and maintain a commitment to our new secondary school during your election campaign and after. Further details of our campaign can be found at www.thensc.net – please take a few minutes to have a look.

Thank you for your help in this matter and I very much look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

NAME

ADDRESS