



Gorton Mount
Primary School
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Head teacher
Carol Powell

1st June 2012

To whom it may concern

Re: Minutes of 29th July 2011

A journalist working for the Times Educational Supplement telephoned me recently to ask about some minutes she had read stating that my school was going to become an academy. She asked me why this was happening when our last two Ofsted reports judged us as good (2007 and 2011). In fact, as she remarked, our last Ofsted report also judged us outstanding in some areas.

She then said that the CYPOS committee minutes also stated that we, as a school, were opposed to this.

I have shared these minutes with my governing body at a GB committee meeting last night. They instructed me to write to you and request that the following be included as a record.

The governing body of Gorton Mount Primary School has followed LA instruction and has co-operated fully with the process to become an academy and with the wishes and instructions of the sponsor and the Local Authority. Gorton Mount Primary School has been on a journey of improvement for the last eight and a half years. This has been acknowledged by Ofsted HMI Assessors, Inclusion Quality Mark Assessors, Healthy Schools Assessors and the Montessori Accreditation body.

Yours sincerely


Carol Powell
Head teacher

Extract of the Overview and Scrutiny OfSTED Subgroup meeting on 29 July 2011

CYP/OSG/11/08

Update on Victoria Avenue Community Primary School

The Chair asked for an update on Victoria Avenue Community Primary School, whose Ofsted report was considered at the last meeting. The school was rated as inadequate and the Council was supporting its application to become a sponsored academy.

The Quality Manager informed members that the school governing body has selected E-Act as the sponsor for their academy status. Of all the potential sponsors, the school's governing body agreed that E-Act were the clearest about improving the outcomes for the pupils. Victoria Avenue will continue to work closely with Pikefold and Crab Lane Primary Schools as a condition of their academy application. Members asked the Quality Manager to provide a briefing note for members to outline whom E-Act were.

A member referred to a group of schools in Gorton that had been grouped together to apply for academy status under the Government's plans for under performing schools to convert to academies. These schools included Gorton Mount and Wright Robinson College, both of which had significantly improved Ofsted inspection reports since they were put in this group. The member stated that both schools did not want to proceed with the group application to academy status. The schools had to work with Altrincham Girls School as part of this process.

A member asked whether the Council could intervene if the governing body of the school was against the decision. The Quality Manager said that the governing body of a school would have to agree to apply to become a sponsored academy. Members requested an update on the progress of this application for academy status to the next meeting.

Decision

1. To ask the Quality Manager to provide members with a briefing note about E-Act.
2. To ask the Quality Manager to provide members with an update on the academy application for the group of schools in Gorton including Wright Robinson and Gorton Mount.