

Our Ref: LMcL/CC
Ask For: Liz McLean
Date: 3 July 2014



Penston House
Macmerry Industrial Estate
Macmerry
EH33 1EX
Tel 01620 827827

John Maslen & Laura Forrest
(Co-Chairs, Law Parent Council)
14 York Rd
North Berwick
EH39 4LX

Dear Mr Maslen and Ms Forrest,

Law Primary School: State of Repair

Your letter of 30th June 2014 to Darrin Nightingale, Head of Education, has been forwarded to me for response.

I met with the maintenance officer, George Cunningham yesterday and we discussed the areas of the school which have been highlighted as needing particular attention. Roof leaks will be addressed immediately and George has already instructed property maintenance to carry out repairs, which he will oversee. He had already arranged to get additional ceiling tiles for areas and instructed the works to the portakabin.

We also discussed what general maintenance work can be done now, which will not have to be un-done as part of the future works and George will arrange to meet with the Head Teacher to discuss areas of the school which can be painted during the summer. New floor coverings are needed in some areas which will be affected by future internal alterations and these will be included in future project works.

All agreements have been finalised with the housing developers and financial commitment is in place for provision of additional capacity to accommodate pupils from the new housing. However, developers aren't asked to pay for the upgrade of existing buildings or for making up the shortfall in a school's existing accommodation. The funding for this comes from the Council's very restricted Property Renewals Budgets which has to deal with all Council buildings. In the recent past, investment has been made at Law PS in upgrading the electrical distribution system and replacing windows and doors. As part of the major works, the school will require to be rewired and all existing toilet areas will be upgraded. We will ensure that the allocation for this is committed in the priority works budgets for 2015/16/17. The Council's available budget has to be targeted on a Health and Safety and risk basis, addressing e.g. fire risk, heating systems and boilers, special needs adaptations etc.

We recently provided information to the Scottish Government on the condition of those East Lothian schools which are classified as being in Condition or Suitability rating C (poor) together with the level of investment needed for upgrading. Law PS was one of the schools for which detail was provided.

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There has been a slowing down in communication with the school on the expansion plans, which had been very good, while we concentrated resources on projects with earlier delivery targets. The team will now focus on Law PS and while the general proposals have been discussed and agreed with the school and Education, further consultation will be held to develop the detailed design. The project implementation and phasing plan will be discussed fully to ensure that all Health and Safety issues are understood and addressed.

Please be assured that the expansion and upgrading of Law Primary School is a Council priority and we will meet with you and the school and education representatives early in the new term to provide an update on the project.

Yours sincerely



Liz McLean
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c.c. Darrin Nightingale, Paul Iannetta, Cllr Berry, Cllr Day, Cllr Goodfellow,
Law PC Members, Jill Wareham - HT