

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

The 8 Minutes to Oxted campaign group has sent its response to the Consultation on the School Admission Policy for September 2009 to Surrey County Council. We have objected strongly to the initial proposal which excludes Lingfield and Dormansland from the Oxted school catchment area and we have submitted an alternative proposal which fully supports the proposal put forward by the head teachers and governing bodies of Oxted, Lingfield, Dormansland and Godstone schools and seven other schools which form part of the proposal.

The 8 minutes to Oxted campaign team has consulted with all of the parents at both Lingfield and Dormansland schools and received 100% agreement to support this proposal.

In order to formulate this proposal we have worked closely with Nick Skellett, leader of Surrey County Council, Andrew Crisp, member for schools and learning and officers from Surrey County Council. Mr Skellett attended a public meeting at Lingfield Primary School and he has been present at meetings of the head teachers and chairmen of governors of Lingfield, Dormansland, Godstone and Oxted schools and has worked with them to try to find a solution. Andrew Crisp has met with the campaign team on a few occasions and has worked with us closely.

Without the voice of all our community and our M.P. Peter Ainsworth we would not have been able to have such an essential involvement in forming this proposal which will be presented to Surrey County Council's Executive Committee. The solution which has been proposed to the council carries the full support of the head teachers and governing bodies of all of the schools affected and Mr Skellett has told us that he fully supports that proposal.

This proposal offers equal opportunity of a place at Oxted School for all children at primary school in the existing catchment area.

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