

EDUCATION PDS COMMITTEE
19th March 2013

QUESTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER

Written Questions for the Education Portfolio Holder received from Michelle Blythe

Q1 Parents are stressed out and fighting to park every day. It would be unethical for new parents not to be fully briefed on these serious issues that will affect the safety of their children. Will you pre-warn prospective parents of these very serious issues that will impact them daily?

Reply:

It is the role of the school to make parents aware of any issues related to their child's attendance at the school and in particular any health and safety issues. I am aware that Keston Primary takes this issue very seriously and in relation to that make parents very aware of the issues around delivering their children to and collecting their children from the school. I have no doubt any new parents will be made aware by the school of the issues you raise as indeed to many other schools with particular issues related around the start and close of the school day. Specifically I am advised that the school already discusses with existing and prospective parents the congestion at the start and end of the school day and the school actively promote the 'unofficial' one-way system in Lakes Road and Keston Avenue.

Q2 Currently I cannot exit my drive before 9am most mornings. Currently I cannot enter my drive at 3.20pm most afternoons. How are you going to protect residents and enable them to leave their properties to go about their lives?

Reply:

This is an issue which is outwith my remit; however this is not an uncommon problem for any resident who lives in proximity to a school. Various solutions, some very innovative have been found by other schools, no doubt these and others will be looked at by the school and responsible Officers in the near future and will be taking this into account when reaching my decision on the future of the Keston school. I acknowledge that congestion is a known issue for local residents

Q3 Parking restrictions will definitely be required to allow residents free movement. How will these parking restrictions be enforced, I assume you will need to bus in parking wardens or install cameras?

Reply:

The operation of a Controlled Parking Scheme with residents only parking is an option which will be evaluated regarding Keston Primary Schools access routes, however that is not an option in my direct gift. How such a scheme is

enforced is also not in my control however I would point out that at present the police will act regarding any vehicle which is causing an obstruction. Currently there is no proposal to implement parking restrictions in the vicinity of the school.