

Braco Primary School Parent Council
c/o Braco Primary School
Feddal Road
Braco
FK15 9QD

Carol Taylor
Perth & Kinross Council
Pullar House
35 Kinnoull Street
Perth
PH1 5GD

6th October 2017

Dear Carol Taylor,

Transformation of the School Estate

Childcare Provision

Braco Primary School Parent Council (BPSPC) would like to take the opportunity, during the current consultation on the Transformation of the School Estate, to highlight the importance of childcare provision. Parents have noted that small village schools, like Braco, are often very much sought after and are attractive to young families. Support with childcare provision would help maintain a healthy school roll, and hopefully increase it further as more families decide to move into the area.

A number of young families have moved into area over the past 2 years, confounding forecasted rolls. Nevertheless, a significant hindrance to local children attending primary schools in Braco and Greenloaning is the provision of local childcare. Braco & Greenloaning are primarily commuter villages, which makes it difficult for working families to complete the school-run without out-of-school childcare provision. In some instances, even though Braco & Greenloaning has a thriving community and a much loved school, some parents are left with no choice but to take their children to schools out of catchment and often into a different council area.

BPSPC would like to take this opportunity to express a need for Perth and Kinross Council to consider factoring in facilities that support provision of out of school childcare when options are being considered. BPSPC considers that a healthy and happy school roll can be maintained if childcare concerns can be resolved, something that we have been striving to achieve but with little success. We ask that whatever option is implemented needs to consider how out of school childcare provision can be supported. For example, the provision of a space in which a breakfast club/safestart club and/or after school care can be organised outwith school hours.

We hope you will take this into consideration when making your final decision.

Yours faithfully,

Braco Primary School Parent Council