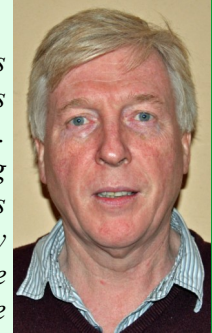


Clintyclay PS

Our School - Our Community - Our Future



“As the current chair of the Board of Governors, as a parent and as a past pupil I was extremely disappointed to learn that the SELB Draft Area Plan for Primary Provision was proposing that a consultation take place on the potential closure of Clintyclay PS. However on receiving the CCMS report on which that proposal is based my initial feeling of disappointment quickly turned to one of anger and dismay. The CCMS report contains numerous factual errors about our school which completely contradict the very professional reports undertaken in Clintyclay over the past number of years – namely the Education and Training Inspectorate’s (ETI) report that was published in 2010 and the SELB Viability Audit from 2012.



Overleaf I have set out some of the main points from those reports which I believe demonstrate how Clintyclay meets the six criteria in the Sustainable Schools policy. Also below you will read the opinion of others who have had the opportunity to read the same reports as I have and who also remain confident that the school will emerge intact from this consultation. In the coming weeks once the CCMS has responded to the queries we have raised about the inaccuracies in its report and we have a better sense of what this consultation will involve we will hold a public meeting to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to have their say on this most important issue.”

Gerard Cunningham, resident, former pupil, teacher & Chair of the Board of Governors



“I have no hesitation in sending my eldest child John to P1 in Clintyclay this September as I am confident that he will have the best educational experience that any child could be offered. I look forward to John spending many happy years at Clintyclay where I too enjoyed my own primary school career.”

Anne Donaghy, resident, former pupil, Chief Executive of Ballymena Borough Council

“Our school was under threat in the late nineties when my children were there and now my grandchildren are there we face another fight, but we are ready for it again. Our school must be protected, it is a key focal point of our community”

Gerard Muldoon, resident, former pupil, local business owner and former Chair of the Board of Governors



“I had the opportunity to research the history of Clintyclay within the Clonmore Through The Years project in 2010/11. The impact the school has had on the lives of those in their late 80s down to our current pupils was not only evident but inspiring. My son James is in his first year at the school and I look forward to my daughter Mary attending in September—I have fond memories of my seven years there and I know they will too.”

Roisin McAliskey, resident, former pupil, Marketing Manager STEP & former project officer for Clonmore Through The Years

“Myself and my siblings were afforded the privilege of attending Clintyclay and received an undoubtedly high quality standard of education, my eldest daughter Jane spent seven years also receiving an equally valuable education. It is my hope that my two sons and youngest daughter will also enjoy their entire primary education at Clintyclay—there is nowhere better.”

Dominic Molloy, resident, former pupil, Manager, Local Councillor Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council





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Forget the Rumours - These are the facts!

On March 19th the SELB published its *Draft Area Plan for Primary Provision*. This document contains a proposal in relation to Clintyclay PS stating “*CCMS to consult on the potential closure of this school.*” This proposal is based on a report commissioned by CCMS which claims that Clintyclay “*has been deemed to be potentially financially unviable*”

This assertion is contradicted not only in the SELB Viability Audit but also further on in the CCMS report itself when it states “*all four schools (in Dungannon Parish) have been deemed to be financially stable for the foreseeable future*”.

The CCMS have confirmed that the 2013/2014 school year will not be affected by this consultation which will deal only with the school's future from August 2014 onwards.

The Sustainable Schools Policy, published in 2009, sets out six criteria to be considered in assessing a school's educational viability, as follows:-

- *Quality Educational Experience*; - The ETI report praises “*the very good standards achieved by the children, in both literacy and mathematics,*” validated by the 100% of Clintyclay children who at the end of keystage 2 attained level 4 and above in both English and Mathematics
- *Stable Enrolment Trends*; - The ETI report states that “*enrolment has remained fairly steady in recent years*” while the SELB Viability Audit shows that the schools numbers have actually been growing
- *Sound Financial Position*; - ETI do not report on finances however the SELB Viability Audit states that the school operates within its budget and awards the school a level 4 rating, the best rating possible.
- *Strong Leadership and Management*; - ETI praised “*the effective and dedicated leadership of the Principal ably supported by a hard working and committed teaching and support staff.*”
- *Accessibility*; - Clintyclay PS services our local community with the vast majority of students living in the immediate area. There are no other schools within our immediate area as both Tamnamore PS and Tullyroan PS have already been closed.
- *Strong Links with the Community*. - We only have to look at the Clonmore Through the Years book and think back to the project exhibition to see that not only does Clintyclay PS have strong links with our community but together with our chapel and football club, Clintyclay PS has shaped our community for over 100 years.