

4 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Swimming Pool

We are writing to you today on behalf of your Governing Board, in the light of recent posts on social media about the Test Valley School pool and press reporting. We wanted to clarify the position for parents at the school to dispel any confusion that may be caused by the social media postings and by any further media about the pool.

As you are aware, following extensive reviews of the options to develop the pool at Test Valley School, the Board of Governors made the decision last March to close the pool and redevelop the area into an open-air creative space for the wider use of the community. This was widely communicated and has the support of a broad range of local organisations.

We have since been approached by a group with an alternative community-led proposal to develop the pool. The Governors have a duty to ensure that the best decisions are made for the pupils at Test Valley School and we, therefore, believe that this proposal deserves full consideration before Hampshire County Council initiate the planned works in January 2022. In addition to the financial aspects, the Governors have asked this group for much more comprehensive plans which address wider safeguarding concerns about the security of our young people at school and the environmental footprint this facility would create. We have asked for a response to our questions by November 10th and we will determine after that whether our original decision needs revisiting or not.

We are working to a tight deadline on this as the planned works are due to start in January 2022.

If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to get back to us at the school.

With best wishes

Roma Chappell
Chair of Governors

David Hall
Governor

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