

From: [REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 28 August 2018 15:56:30
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Gordon Primary Huntly - A disaster waiting to happen!!

For MACCS please

[REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)] | Assistant Private Secretary (Correspondence) to John Swinney MSP | Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary Education and Skills | Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Swinney J (John), MSP
Sent: 27 August 2018 09:24
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Gordon Primary Huntly - A disaster waiting to happen!!

[REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]

Personal Assistant to John Swinney
MSP for Perthshire North / Deputy First Minister / Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills
Tel:[REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)] www.johnswinneymsp.com / www.scottish.parliament.uk ? Before you print think about the ENVIRONMENT

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 24 August 2018 16:48
To: Swinney J (John), MSP <John.Swinney.msp@parliament.scot>
Cc: Davidson R (Ruth), MSP <Ruth.Davidson.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: Gordon Primary Huntly - A disaster waiting to happen!!

Dear Mr Swinney,

I feel I need to bring to your attention to the ongoing issues relating to Gordon Primary Huntly, Aberdeenshire.

Since having a new Head Teacher ([REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]) last year, it had come to parents attention that the school was in very poor condition.

[REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)] has spent last year fielding conversations with concerned parents about the conditions their children were having to work in, this was inclusive of mould on

walls, carpets and often books and school bags due to issues with the roof and heating systems in the school.

There were children in some classes who were having breathing problems due to the mould spores, steroids were having to be increased to deal with it. This was an issue throughout the school and was happening to a greater degree than was realised.

The condition of the school was assessed after a great deal of pressure from the parent council and we found that there were many things wrong with the school that have been overlooked for some time.

With the council now agreeing to a new roof we thought there would be a plan in place that would mean over the summer holidays the issues would be remedied.

The school Parent Council asked for contingency planning in case of issues but this wasn't identified.

On return to the school term we have come in to a 12 week programme of works to remove and update the roof. The school is a health and safety nightmare, it is only a matter of time before a child is injured.

One of the school yards has had to be closed off after concerns for safety. One of the roofs have collapsed in the girls toilets thankfully just before school started. My son has said they are cracks right through this classroom ceiling, that they can hear workers on the roof constantly and that it is noisy and disruptive. There has been reports of debris falling onto the children and the roof shaking and blackboards shaking. This is scaring children.

As a parent I am extremely concerned that this school is not safe for the children to be in period.

I do not feel confident that the asbestos in the school won't be disrupted and that all has been done by the council to assess the safety of the school.

I feel desperate for the Head Teacher who is trying to keep the children safe in incredibly difficult circumstances.

The Huntly Schools have been overlooked for upgrade for many years to the point now that the Primary school is not fit for purpose, over subscribed and quite honestly dangerous for the children's health, some parents have had to remove their children over these concerns and other parents are talking about removing their kids until the works are completed.

As the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills I would hope you would take this matter extremely seriously and do everything in your power to ensure the safety of our Children. This is happening now and needs a lot of attention to ensure that the correct H&S procedures are in place, the trust for the local council to deliver this has been lost due to the already poor response and dire condition of the school and I know no one wants to admit how bad the school has got!! Its only a matter of time until the press are all over this.

Please help!!

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED - s.38(1)(b)]

Parent

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