

From: Ekta Kaur Ross

Date: Mon, 29 May 2023

Subject: A New School for Burnham April 2023 Survey Responses

To: Mrs Joy Morrissey MP Houses of Parliament London SW1A 0AA

Dear Joy

I write to you again reminding you of the escalating need we have to establish a non-selective secondary school in the local area of Burnham for 70% of our children.

We had recent correspondence through one of our Burnham Parish Councillor's in which we were advised about the free school presumption. If you may recall, in a letter dated 23.8.2022, we were advised of this very same free school presumption and yet were also informed we needed the support of Buckinghamshire Council (BC) to progress such an option. As you know, we are still challenged to gain their support.

BC continues to state incomplete numbers of the children in the area. In some of their statements, they quote Wycombe birth data which is irrelevant to our area. It is very straightforward in this area. We have more than 6 primary schools in the vicinity of this proposed secondary school site; 4 within 1 mile of the school site, 3 primary schools a little over 1 mile away and additional primary schools a little further away with families who are part of the Burnham community and have stated to us that they would choose to send their children to a new well-run secondary school at our proposed site in Burnham.

The primary schools quoted above are full, families are moving into our area due to high employment opportunities and the Elizabethan train line connecting commuters to London with ease. We are *not* in any way similar to the Wycombe area.

Every school morning, you see several coaches leaving Burnham to transport children to their school. You see many children at the train station. We have a school site, we have more than the minimum number of children to attend a new school and yet we add traffic, pollution, chaos, financial pressures and stress to many families and give our children a poor compromise for arguably the most important years of their lives. Every school morning, we are sending a 'school full of children' on transport to other areas.

The numbers of children BC state and the reasons they give to refute a new school simply do not add up at ground level. Our children are well on their way to being marooned as housing developments accelerate in Maidenhead. BC offer our children one option within Bucks County – to attend a faith school over 4.5 miles away. We need members of BC and the Department of Education to visit us on the ground and see the status and not make decisions from a remote office using partial numbers. I am very confident that if they

were to see for themselves the mass movement of children every morning from Burnham there would be no refusal for a school.

It is truly incredible – we have a school site, we have more than enough school children, but we continue to impose stress and financial pressures on the average family and the lower income families. This is clearly a disadvantage for the middle- and low-income families. The word discrimination comes to mind.

We recently conducted a survey in the local area and received 462 responses within days; attached is a collation made beginning of April 2023. The survey continues to run and there are over 500 responses to date all stating the need for a school. We would like to share the results of the survey with yourself and BC and can share it as raw data if that is the preference. Please let us know if you would like access to the raw data.

We would very much appreciate it if you would please:

1. Share the attached collated survey responses with the (a) Regional Department for Education Director for South East Dame Kate Dethridge, (b) the Minister of Education, (c) the leader of Buckinghamshire Council Martin Tett and (d) the Cabinet Member for Education Anita Cranmer?
2. Read the attached survey responses for yourself and see the amount of stress this lack of school is causing for the local population?
3. Persuade and organise a meeting with the Regional Department for Education Director for South East Dame Kate Dethridge to meet with us face to face so that we can present our verified data to establish the need for a secondary school in Burnham?
4. Persuade and organise a meeting with BC senior leadership and management to visit us in Burnham and allow us the opportunity to demonstrate the need for a school.

We sincerely thank you and very much appreciate all the time and support you have given to us thus far. We continue to look forward to your favourable support and help with our 4 requests given above.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely

Ekta

Councillor Ekta Kaur Ross on behalf of the Campaign Group 'A School for Burnham'.

Comments

<p>A good secondary school in Burnham is the only way to solve this. If not, people may start voting to change the school system in Bucks to incorporate comprehensive schools, instead of selective schools. This would also be a solution - Burnham Grammar could become a comprehensive & this would solve the problem!</p>
<p>A local school is important for the community and for friends being local. Travelling for school and potentially then at weekends make it more difficult to keep children safe.</p>
<p>A non grammar school needs to open in Burnham. I have 2 other children in primary and worried about secondary schools, costs and transportation. The area is getting developed but no where for our kids to go to school locally. It's a gamble if you do not pass 11 plus.</p>
<p>A secondary school in addition to BGS is desperately needed in Burnham</p>
<p>A secondary school would be amazing for all children who live in this area and also for the parents who spend countless hours travelling to and from other areas to get their children to school and back home, as well as after school activities.</p>
<p>A village burnham size with the quantity of kids attending primary schools in the area I'm surprised at the lack of options for a secondary school, how can it be deemed that there's insufficient interest in a secondary school. If you travel burnham on a weekday morning you'll see the amount of kids getting a coach to school... not only is this expensive and inconvenient to the parents it's unnecessary when there's a school building being left to rot!!</p>
<p>Absolutely ridiculous there is no non selective secondary school for our children. Quite shocking this is allowed to happen. The forgotten children have rights</p>
<p>All schools are now over subscribed and our children are lowest on the list for them</p>
<p>All though my older children attend Beaconsfield high my concern is for my younger children yet to complete the 11 plus and may need a local comprehensive school. We would not have so much pressure and worry as a family if a good local school existed in Burnham alternative. This would have made it a much less stressful process for my older children if they had other options if 11 plus was not achieved</p>
<p>Although my children are fortunate to attend Burnham Grammar, I fully support the principle that Burnham should have a good quality option for a comprehensive style secondary school. Children who commute have an extremely long day which does not aid their development and freedom to grow and balance school with other activities/ relaxation.</p>
<p>Another School in the local area is desperately needed, there's not any options other than beechwood for the Britwell, Priory and Burnham children so either have to go out the area completely or SETTLE for school we are not happy with</p>
<p>Answers to question Q20 should not support the conclusion that local grammar school is not required.</p>
<p>15 minutes access to school should be one of the prevailing factors.</p>
<p>As the council's are building up the Burnham area in terms of new housing, they should also be increasing resources too such as Schooling and doctors, neither of which are being done and at the moment residents are struggling with amenities as it is. I think it is unfair and inappropriate that we are expected to travel to outside areas of Burnham so our children can attend school. This increases pollution due to having to use vehicles and also increases traffic in the area, both of which we should be reducing. Burnham definately needs another secondary school!</p>
<p>Been let down badly by Bucks Council our MP and the Department of Education - particularly shameful from the Council</p>
<p>Being able to attend a local school for our children would be a great benefit to also building a community rather than seeing kids going their separate ways at the age of 11 and losing friendship/relationships.</p>
<p>Bourne End Academy is nice, but it is too far away and has no GCSEs or A-Levels for children interested in computer science or graphic design.</p>
<p>Bucks County Council should not be relying on other councils to provide our future educational needs, especially when we have an existing site and empty school already available in Burnham. They should not be pontificating about "sustainability" .in their press releases if they're not prepared to practice what they preach on the basic issue of local education.</p>
<p>Build another school in Burnham, preferably within the next 3 years before my daughter gets to secondary school please</p>
<p>Burnham children who do not pass the 11+ are discriminated against. They are being forced to go to schools which are either failing or do not provide the opportunities other non select schools offer. Burnham Grammar accepts a huge proportion of children from outside of Bucks but other councils do not allow Burnham students into their successful schools. Buckinghamshire council are effectively ensuring our kids DO NOT reach their full potential!!</p>
<p>Would the Bucks councillors (if they lived in Burnham) be happy to send their kids to Cox Green, Bourne End or Pioneer? If the answer is NO then why should they force Burnham residents to do it.</p>

Burnham has many new houses/flats built but does not have a secondary school to facilitate all the children in this area. There is a perfectly good school which should be open so our hound children don't have to travel to school via taxi or buses. Not having a school open here does not benefit anybody. Cost of living is becoming crippling and to add more money to it we are expected to pay out for our children to travel to school. It's is completely unacceptable. Our children deserve a good education in a school within their living area. It makes sense to open the school and allow parents to feel comfortable sending children to secondary school. It is already a very scary process when your child moves to secondary and it doesn't seem fair to add to our stresses and worries about our children being no where near home.

Also for Parents that don't drive and may be struggling to just get necessities at home it's just another added pressure.

Burnham is a village and we need our children to be part of our community and have a relationship with Burnham residents, take part in activities/ events in Burnham have a circle of friends in Burnham.

Burnham is always at the bottom of Buck's council's priorities in terms of schooling, investment, road quality. We are treated very inequitably compared to other towns and villages.

Burnham is growing with new housing etc., and is in desperate need to have a local school. There are now many complaints that the Maidenhead children are not getting their first choice due to the Burnham children intake to their schools. Housing is being increased in all local areas, it's sheer stupidity and tunnelled vision not to provide local schooling. There is an excellent site already, use it for our children.

Burnham must have a secondary school, it's imperative. New housing keeps going up which also adds to the need of a school. Pronto. Turn the other empty school back into a school.

Burnham needs a 'good' non selective secondary school. There's a building there ready to go. Why is it not being utilised? This year has shown that the Maidenhead schools haven't got the space for Burnham children and this will only get worse. I want my child to be able to walk to school, be able to attend after school clubs and still be able to get home, to have friends they grow up with just around the corner.

Burnham needs a high quality secondary to reduce traffic, pollution and travel costs to other schools out of area.

Burnham needs a non grammar secondary school

Burnham needs a secondary school there are plenty of children in and around Burnham that would be able to walk to school an ease the travel costs to parents also less congestion on our roads much better for the children's health. I myself was one of the first to attend the school in opendale road when the school was first built. Let's hope the school will reopen for the children an young adults of Burnham.

Burnham needs a secondary school!

Burnham NEEDS a secondary school, my son is 5 and I'm so worried about where my son will go to school. Cox green isn't an option.

Burnham needs a secondary school. Given how much the population has risen in this area and the continued development the children need a local school to attend. The same situation applies in Maidenhead as the area is getting more and more built up and even children living there are not being offered their first or second choice secondary school so where does this leave the children of Burnham! Pioneer Academy is not a non selective school and is hardly local for Burnham residents.

Burnham needs another option for a secondary school. Not all children will be able to attend burnham grammar. Burnham secondary school should never have got shut down .

Burnham really needs a secondary school there are 5/6 primaries but no where for them to go to secondary and are out of catchment for other secondaries. This will lead to families moving away once their children reach secondary School age and those that cannot afford to move away struggle to pay for private coaches

Burnham Upper needs to be made into a school again. Many children need a local school instead of having to travel out of the catchment to a school

CCC has major behavioural issues that would have negatively affected my SEN child. I am extremely happy with GMS but I had to appeal. A secondary in Burnham would have allowed my disabled son to get to school safely without the need for public transport, which he cannot use. I work in Marlow therefore can safely drop him at school otherwise he would be unable to get to school safely.

Children deserve a local school within walking distance

Children should be able to walk to school and be part of their own community. It doesn't help build on our community when they are bussed miles away, increasing traffic on our roads, clogging up the environment with pollution and fracturing local friendships between the children. I strongly believe a good local school adds to our community, encourages growth within our area and is essential for children.

Considerable amounts of money spent on tuition for 11+ : it's not a fair system for all and should be removed. We have considered moving as non-grammar options are not good (from Stoke pages): Pioneer requires improvement and is a faith school, Chalfont is a large school and the reputation, from discussions with parents with children currently there, is concerning. We are out of catchment for Beaconsfield school and Bourne End academy, meaning Maidenhead is the only option which is a drive to bus stops and then a long bus journey for over £1k per annum.

A school in Burnham would meet needs far more appropriately. The current situation is failing!

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Having lived in Burnham all my life and with 2 young children now myself I am really worried about what the options will be for them and whether we will even have much choice when they reach Secondary School age.

I already have my younger SEN daughter in a school that is aged 4-16 so at the moment I'm only hoping that will be a good enough fight on application forms that because I travel to Maidenhead every day that I'd get my older daughter in to a GOOD secondary school in Maidenhead. I'm not sure my older daughter is able to pass the 11+ however why should she and so many others be punished by then not having a non-selective school in her local area to then be able to attend. The local schools LRS and BG are willing to support a local non grammar school.

I am a single parent with no contributions towards daughters upbringing for the dad. I m very worried about and try not to think about how I find the money for the coach to send my child to secondary school.

I am against selective education for many reasons.

- 1) labelling children at an early age
- 2) an arbitrary test that doesn't measure a child's potential ability or match any other sort of examination and limited aspects of the curriculum
- 3) undue pressure on young children
- 4) pressure for parents to pay for tutoring
- 5) once children are segregated they have limited opportunities to learn from their peers.

I chose to send my first child to an out of county comprehensive for the above reasons and the fact the Burnham Upper was failing at that point and I felt that his learning would not be supported. I didn't have any choice for my second child as it had closed by then.

I would have preferred for both my children to be educated in their own village, walk to school with their friends and receive a quality education. I am really angry that the Bucks CC doesn't recognise that all our children aren't equal.

I am completely in support of the individuals raising awareness around the 'Burnham needs a Secondary school' initiative. If my child doesn't pass the 11+ then we will be looking at schools in Maidenhead, which is already full.

I am forcing my daughter to prepare for 11+ and that's not good for her but as a mother I want her to get through burnham grammar not because it's a grammar school but because I don't want her spending half her secondary school life in travelling to Cox green or other such schools. I wish I had another school in Burnham/Taplow for ease of my daughter.

I am homeschooling for secondary as the commute for a child is too long

I attended burnham secondary as a child, my 4 older children attended burnham upper. The problem was when e-act took over, they are a business and didn't care enough so it all started to slip. Open it as a school with staff that want children to achieve. That understand each child is different and have their own issues to overcome.

I believe that every school should have a primary school within their community, I really hope that this sorts out before my daughter reaches secondary school age so she can stay with her friends and gets continuity in her education.

I believe there should be a secondary school in Burnham

I completely agree that there is a need for an additional secondary school in Burnham. There is an unused building that can be put back into use to the benefit of the whole village (for children during the day and sports and adult education in the evenings). It will become less and less likely that children will be placed in secondary schools in neighbouring boroughs due to over-subscription and also as a result of new housing developments and the associated demand these bring within their own boroughs.

I contacted Bucks some time ago to complain about the lack of a secondary school in Burnham. Got a reply that I wasn't happy with - I was just being fobbed off with a stock reply.

I don't have children but have answered a few of the questions as if I have. This is an issue for ALL of us in the Burnham area. It is really unfair on parents and children but it also creates (unnecessary) increased traffic congestion and hurts our sense of community, which affects us all.

I don't wish to move, have a good network of support from friends especially required due to my son with complex needs. I resent the possibility that my daughters may not be able to attend after school clubs if, as is likely, we are forced to rely on school transport. I will have at least 5 years with children in 3 schools. I would feel much more confident if my eldest was in walking distance of our home. When we originally moved to Burnham 8 years ago, secondary school options felt safe and available. There is now a lot of pressure and no guarantee to obtain a grammar school place. In a family where nothing is certain, we spend increasing time in hospital with our son, piece of mind about the opportunities available for our daughters and their physical safety are significant concerns.

I find it appalling that a school is sat not far from the residents of this Borough doing nothing when it could be opened to the children who live here, I used to live in London an thought that was bad an moving out of London would be better for my children but the risks involved with travelling out of Borough an the time an the cost for travel is absolutely absurd that the council think this is all exceptable, I do not drive so how am i ment to get to my child quickly an for parents evening ect, I'm not willing to have my child travelling so far an I would much prefer to home school or give up my home which I have only been living at just over 2 years an

spent my time and money doing up to ensure my child is close to me and not roaming out of Borough also if my child misses the coach, bus it gets dark in autumn etc so no way am I having my child out miles away

I grew up in Burnham and benefited from a local secondary school

I have a daughter currently in year 6 at Primary School. She is due to go up to Burnham Grammar in September 2023.

My son is currently in year 3 at primary school. I worry about him and what secondary school he will be able to go to. I'm not sure 11 plus is the right thing for him. Therefore, a non selective secondary school maybe the option for him. We live in Burnham and worry about his safety if he has to travel so far out of the area to get to school.

I have completed this for my daughter, who is a one parent family, lives 30 mins walk from Burnham train station and does not drive. She would therefore rely on a bus place, but at the moment is unemployed so funds are very limited.

I have grandchildren I have to collect from school and I should not have to travel to collect them especially when they are ill

I have recently applied for my daughters secondary school. We applied for Cox Green but unfortunately she didn't get this choice but she was offered Chalfont community college. We live in Burnham and with no transport to Chalfont we had to reject this offer. If there was a school in Burnham this wouldn't be an issue.

I hope I never have to send my children to BE academy.

I live in Slough but Burnham Grammar school is our closest secondary school, but if my children don't pass the 11+ it would be great to have another choice in Burnham.

I lived in Burnham for 10 years and my children attend(ed) Lent Rise School. We have moved to Maidenhead and one of the main reasons that drove this move was the lack of secondary school provision in Burnham.

I think it's outrageous the local children don't have a school to go to in Burnham, so many of our children have to head out on trains and buses whilst many are coming from all over to access a grammar school that only kids that are tutored will go to. Very unfair

I went to the school Burnham Upper it was a good school. I would love it to reopen its doors

I work at Cox Green School in Maidenhead and a considerable amount of the students come from Burnham. There are coach loads of students travelling from numerous bus stops around the village into the Maidenhead schools every morning. The children who get the coach miss out on after school clubs and sporting opportunities.

I'm principal of Angela Terrey Academy of dance and teach at cornerstone St Peter's church and it's hard to get pupils ages 11 plus and parents cannot afford £1000 a year bus and extra activities like dancing and the grammar school pupils are more pressured in school work to attend extra curriculum activities. I love to teach more older pupils as my exams are recognised by GQUAL.

I've lived in Burnham for over 40 years. I failed and went to Burnham Upper, it was so poor my parents moved me to Maidenhead. I know have 2 children, unlikely to get into Burnham Grammar which means they will have a distance to school which I'm sad about as I hated my school commute and hated the fact all my friends were so far away and I couldn't just walk round to catch up with them like they all could. I couldn't easily do after school activities either

Isn't it a no-brainer for the former Burnham Upper School to be re-opened to end this continued problem which is only getting worse. Our kids are not a priority anywhere except Burnham so we need our school back immediately

It is ridiculous that Burnham parents have little option other than to send our children to the other side of Maidenhead for decent non grammar schools. This was the situation in my oldest child's school, with the vast majority choosing either Altwood or Cox Green schools. With the new housing developments of 2000+ homes set to be built in Maidenhead, the availability of those school places will be reduced and priority given to those nearer to the school leaving our Burnham children with very little option. It is therefore vital that a new Burnham school is provided to invest in the future of our Burnham children

It seems like stating the obvious but it's not ideal to take children out of the area for school adding additional travel time onto their day and limiting their access to after school activities. Every single person I've spoke to about this cannot understand why the school would not be reopening and that the plans in place are appalling

It seems ludicrous that a village the size of Burnham can have a selective school (that has a majority of pupils from out of area) yet no non-selective. Especially when a school facility exists. It beggars belief.

It would be amazing to see a secondary school in Burnham !!

It's crazy that we don't have a secondary school in Burnham, it means problems with after school clubs, friends that live far away and pressure on parents to either pay for travel or change work times to take the children to school. Also it's a very long day with travelling.

It's sad that Burnham High school has closed, it's diluted the quality of Burnham Grammar school hence applying for Beaconsfield High for our daughter. Terrible that the only non selective schools available to children are only accessible by bus or car. This is not great for physical health behaviours, environment suffers from car and bus journeys and results in poor air quality which has evidence of worsening health conditions of local residents which in turn worsens social problems related to poor health. A vicious cycle! It

seems Bucks are more interested in generating money using the site for filming location for Heart-stopper and development of housing but lack of additional community facilities for growing number of homes. Recent building of flats on Huntercombe Wyeth site will also add to need for all age school places. We've also lost a hub for community sports activities such as gymnastics which meant we had to take our children to activities out of Burnham by car which is not equitable for families without access to cars, public transport is not sufficient in Burnham to reach alternatives. Feels like Burnham is slowly dying which is sad, it was a more vibrant community 20 years ago which attracted us to stay and raise a family and we're now considering relocating to Maidenhead for better access to services, community offerings, transport and prospects.

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More and more housing is being built in the local area but still no secondary school

Moving out of the area is not an option due to younger children's schools and work availability, not taking into the account the cost of buying/renting, home schooling not possible to make enough to feed family, both parents work full time and private school impossible in current climate. Due to our location and my daughter not passing 11+, we had very limited options.

Moving out, home schooling and private schools are not viable alternatives. Having a good secondary school in burnham is a necessity

Must need a secondary school in Burnham

My child attends our lady of peace as we live on the Burnham border. It's too far to send my child to school in Slough or Maidenhead and it's only 3 years before she goes to a secondary school. I am a full time worker so I don't have the option to drive her around to get her to school. Burnham children need a local good secondary school.

My child is currently at a primary school in Burnham, and is coming up to year 6 in September. I will soon be thinking of secondary schools. I think it's disgusting there is no secondary school in Burnham. I am a single parent struggling to keep up with the cost of living, and yet I'm expected to pay out a fortune to try and get my child to a school that is out of the area that is only accessible by expensive transport. To not even think that a secondary school is needed in a local community is outrageous. It's ok for the council to say "go out of the area", but you are not the ones stressing how you are going to come up with this money for transport, or how you are going to get your child there and back. The stress alone is causing me anxiety and my mental health is at an all time high worrying about where my child is going to go.

Please listen to the local community, we are the ones living in it with the worry and care for our children's education.

My children attended Burnham Grammar School but my daughter was not able to study her choices of A level subject there so had to move to Beaconsfield High School at considerable cost for the bus from Burnham. I was a single parent and struggling financially so finding the money for the bus was difficult. All the children currently in Burnham who do not pass the 11+ have to travel to school by bus. If children travel to Maidenhead the buses have to be paid for by the parents. Having to catch a bus home means students miss out on after school extra curricular activities or parents have to deal with extra costs or inconvenience to get them home. My daughter was studying Music and eventually obtained a degree in the subject. She took part in after school bands in addition to private music lessons so I paid for bus fares but also had to pick her up after the after school activities and transport her to her piano and flute lessons.

When I was at school, pupils who had to travel more than 3 miles to school were provided with free transport. Does this not apply in this area? My school was just under 3 miles from my home so I had to pay for the school bus but there were regular services on the route if I stayed late after school. This is not the case with students attending school in Beaconsfield so parents have to pick their children up if they stay late.

I conclude that Burnham needs a non-selective school to meet the needs of local children who do not pass the 11+.

MY GRANDDAUGHTER LIVES IN SLOUGH ON THE BORDER WITH BURNHAM. HER MUM'S FIRST CHOICE OF SCHOOL WAS WESTGATE. DUE TO AN ERROR (DATE OF BIRTH) MADE BY SLOUGH COUNCIL ON THE APPLICATION FORMS, ALTHOUGH MY DAUGHTER RECEIVED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPLICATION ON TIME, WHEN SHE REALISED THE ERROR AND AMENDED IT, THIS WAS CLASSED IN THE SAME CATAGORIE AS IF SHE HAD CHANGED CHOICE OF SCHOOL. DESPITE CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNCIL, RESULT WAS NO PLACE AT WESTGATE. WHILST THIS, ON THE SURFACE, WOULD SEEM TO HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH THE NEED FOR BURNHAM SECONDRY, IF THERE WAS ANOTHER SCHOOL THERE WOULD BE MANY MORE SCHOOL PLACES IN THE AREA RESULTING IN BETTER CHOICES. AFTER WAITING THROUGHOUT MOST OF SUMMER HOLIDAYS SHE WAS FINALLY OFFERED CHALVEY OR COX GREEN. NEITHER EASILY ACCESSIBLE BUT AT LEAST COX GREEN HAVE COACHES TO AND FROM SCHOOL, AN ABSOLUTE MUST IF YOU DON'T DRIVE. THIS IS VERY EXPENSIVE (£112 PER MONTH) BUT IT'S SAFE. THIS IS OUT OF MY DAUGHTERS ABILITY TO PAY SO I HELP WITH THE BULK OF IT (NOT SO EASY WHEN ON PENSION). IAM SURE THERE MUST BE OTHER GRANDPARENTS/RELATIVES IN A SIMILAR SITUATION. IT ALSO MEANS MY GRANDDAUGHTER LEAVES FOR SCHOOL AT 07:10 AND RETURNS HOME AT 15:30. IF BURNHAM SECONDRY WAS OPEN IT WOULD BE A 10-15 MINUTE WALK FOR FREE. IF MY GRANDAUGHTER WANTS TO DO AN AFTERSCHOOL CLUB I DRIVE TO COLLECT HER. IF I WASN'T ABLE TO DO THIS SHE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE PART. THIS MUST BE APPLICABLE TO ANY CHILD THAT HAS TO TRAVEL BY COACH.

UPSHOT OF ALL THIS, IF BURNHAM SECONDARY WAS RE-OPENED, LOCAL CHILDREN COULD ATTEND A LOCAL SCHOOL, ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS THAT THE SCHOOLS OFFER THESE DAYS REDUCING DISADVANTAGE, AT NO EXTRA COSTS TO PARENTS, REDUCTION OF TRAVEL TIME GIVING CHILDREN EXTRA TIME TO DO HOMEWORK. TEACHERS THAT LIVE LOCALLY WOULD ALSO BENEFIT FROM LOWER TRAVEL TIME AND COSTS, ENHANCING THEIR LIVES.

My older twos school is shocking. All others are too far away, or an unsafe route to travel alone while im doing the primary school run. I cant get them in elsewhere anyway as they are full to max with waiting lists. They will not get a satisfactory education, i hope things change for my younger 2..the only way i can see this happening is there being another school or even 2 in the area especially considering the new builds going up and increasing the local population substantially my younger two are just unlikely to get a place when it comes to secondary age

N/A

Need a school in burnham. Not fair being far and expensive for coach

No

Not having a local upper school affects everyone in the community not just the children. There's a lack of community spirit / feeling as they're socialising outside the village mainly in Maidenhead. It's also unfair to those who cannot afford the transportation costs as they have to accept the alternative Bucks School on offer, they're not always the same Ofsted standard as the Maidenhead schools.

Not having a secondary school in our area has caused an issue already in our household. We know new housing in Maidenhead is currently being built and we worry about what happens if we can't get our children into a grammar school. Because where will our children go? It is not acceptable to send your children to far away school that mean they spend the majority of their after school time travelling! When do they do their homework and after school activities?

One of my daughters is in year 5 and we don't want to choose beechwood or west gate. We will have to try cox green but the travel will cost a lot of money as both parents work so a secondary school in Burnham will be ideal and easier for us to get to and from.

Our both children are in year 5 and year 3, and I don't have a vision for secondary school in local, we can't move out, please open Burnham secondary school

Our son is only 2 and we are already so worried. We want to stay close to family however we are thinking we have no choice but to move.

Parents will not send their children to terrible schools and they shouldn't have to. A local school in 2023 should be the norm not the exception. No one likes sending their children to school in horrible weather whilst its still dark knowing they will do a long day commuting than most people travelling to London for work!!

Pioneer is the school designed for Panhabi families. It's disgraceful not to offer the third GCSE in Science (trylogy) and offer Panjabi instead. Good school should offer two modern languages and triple science. If you think this is acceptable choice please do send your kids there first, and we will follow. I had rather sold my house and move out than send a child there. Unfortunately you force us to move, as Maidenhead is already rejecting some Of our kids.

Please give us another secondary school!

Please have a secondary schools in Burnham

Please open Burnham secondary school, we don't have any non grammar school in our area.

Please see my prior comments.

Please, bring grammar school back.

Ridiculous we don't have adequate provision in the locality.

Thank you for what you are trying to do for our kids!

The Burnham Upper site should be bulldozed and a brand new school put in its place so that the stigma with the old school is no longer there. A nice new fresh school would be perfect so the children in the local area can go to a local school

The majority of children don't qualify for grammar school & there is an urgent need for a secondary school in Burnham. With new housing developments being built, need is increasing rapidly. My younger son will not qualify for grammar school which places him at a significant & unfair disadvantage. There is fierce competition for grammar school places as some parents are desperate to get their children in to Burnham Grammar as a local option rather than for educational reasons.

The private coach service that drops and collects our child is expensive and costs around £1200 per year. We and our child have to get up extra early to ensure child is ready and reaches pick coach up point on time every morning. The coach collection point is not walkable. We have to ensure our child is collected from drop off point on time because the distance from home is not walkable. Our child spends too much time travelling consequently leaves and returns from school feeling and looking exhausted. We have safety concerns as there are often disruptive students on the coach journeys with no respect for rules or drivers. Our child misses

out on after school clubs as coaches will not wait. We are saddened there is no local non-grammar school in Burnham that our child can walk to and from. We are gutted that our child cannot participate in after school clubs such as sports or homework club. Our child is disadvantaged and has a less balanced life because of the above. We need a local non-selective secondary school in Burnham and we need one asap.

The school closest to us and the only walkable school is BGS.....one child passed 11+ the other did not. So now different schools different counties....one Bucks, one Berks.....hard to manage.

There are children literally just across the bucks border in Slough that have no viable option either as historically have gone to the Burnham secondary school. Slough don't want to help with this campaign though as these children seem to have all been allocated the inadequate grove academy as they want to fill it.

There is a massive need for a non selective secondary school in Burnham. Paying for a school coach is expensive & children should be able to walk independently to their local secondary school.

There is no way on earth we would've moved to Burnham if we had known that the secondary school would've closed. There are several junior primary schools in Burnham alone yet just one selective school, how on earth does that make sense to accommodate the children in this village?

We have considered moving out of area but have struggled to sell our home. Burnham is now a less attractive place for people to move to because there are no secondary schools and house prices are plummeting because of it.

My daughter attends a secondary school in Maidenhead because there is no provision in Burnham. As well as being problematic for transport and attending after school activities, it also it's difficult to maintain friendship groups because there are no children locally she knows for her to play with. Her best friends from her secondary school all live on the other side of Maidenhead. This is also therefore affecting a child's social development.

There needs to be a non grammar school in Burnham as it's not fair that there is only a grammar school why do smart kids get the privilege of going to school in there home town

There needs to be a secondary school

There needs to be another option for good secondary school education in Burnham, other than the grammar school. It is unreasonable to expect children to have to pass a test or extend their school day due to having to travel out of area.

There needs to
Be more school

Options. So many new houses being built and no schools to support the demand.

There should be another school in Burnham. I had to send my son to Altwood. But lots of people can afford to pay for transport to get their child to school

These children need a school local for there safety

This area is now hugely over populated. Most of Burnham Grammar are not from Burnham. We have no choice but to send children now and future to schools outside of our area. The impact on children includes friendship groups and mental wellness, as how can they socialise and gain independence if their friends are so far away. Our community has and is continuing to be negatively impacted.

This school is needed as at present most Burnham children get a bus to secondary school

We are a family who don't drive so a school out of the area will be difficult for us to get our child to. I am aware that there are coaches but your not granted a space plus it comes at an extra cost which we don't know how we cover that cost as we don't have spare money from month to month. Burnham needs a secondary school for non 11+ pupils its a area and will benefit many families and improve the children's way of life as parents won't be struggling or stressed financially

We are having to put our child through an 11+ exam due to the fact of no state school being in the area. This further puts more pressure on the child of needing to pass 11+ to be able to attend a school within the area. Having a state school is crucial, some parents have been faced with sending their children further away resulting in increased travel costs such as costs of school coaches which are not exactly cheap.

We are planning to move out of area when the time comes for secondary

We definitely need more good schools (more than one) as there are so many new houses being built in the area. We have struggled with this, as many parents do, and having to consider going private is a indication of the lack of schools in the area

We desperately need a non grammar school in Burnham. We are not guaranteed a place in a secondary school being outside catchment.

We live on the borderline of Taplow/Cippenham. The closest Secondary school to us is Westgate. We are not in catchment for Westgate. We live too far to apply for Maidenhead schools. We literally had no choice for any other Secondary school. Slough council gave us Wexham Secondary which is 6 miles away from us - ridiculous!

We need a good quality comprehensive school in Burnham

We need a local non selective school which is a safe and progressive learning environment for children in he Burnham area. The previous school had many issues which lead to the poor attendance.

We need a local school
We need a local school for our children. The transport is not adequate to get to other schools out of area. Safety is a concern and not all children are savvy enough to be able to navigate there way to another town and borough. It affects working parents and affects the ability of adolescents to develop their independence and resilience. It is abhorrent that a perfectly good school building is going to ruin, when our children could be making good use of it. We should have higher expectations and aspirations for our children in Burnham.
We need a non selective secondary school in Burnham asap. Every area has a non grammar school. We are surprised this is not the case in Burnham and many parents like us are forced to send our children far away on unwalkable journeys constantly concerned about their safety and non balanced extra curricular lifestyles which impacts their well-being.
We NEED a school in Burnham
We need a school in Burnham
We need a secondary school in Burnham for our children
We need a secondary school in Burnham. Not all parents can afford transport for their children to go to a secondary school far away. Or non walking distance.
We need a secondary school in Burnham/Taplow as due to development in Maidenhead and Slough, there would be fewer options for children from Burnham. Also, the parents will have to spend more money on transport or more time dropping and picking their children.
We need a secondary school so our children can be first choice and not second to other areas
We need a viable option for our children if they don't pass the 11+. Currently there isn't one.
We need an non 11+ secondary school other than cox green which is not a option
We need another school in Burnham not more flats, kids need to be in the same town. Unlike councilers they can't drive and some depend on being nearby
We need another secondary school provision in Burnham that is good and well managed and that parents want to send their children to and they will do so. Maidenhead is so far and getting more and more busy so the schools are getting more full. My worry is for my son who might not get a grammar school in Burnham and may not get into cox green...how i would manage that situation other than moving both children out of the area I do not know.
We need Burnham Academy re opened. If they travel by coach it costs the parents a lot of money. Also they can't take part in after school clubs as the coach only drops off & picks up in school hours, unless the parents drive. So lots of children are missing out on learning from the after school clubs. In bad weather the coaches get cancelled . So if they live in Burnham they can walk to school. Also If parents don't drive they find it hard to go to parents evening & anything that goes on in the evenings @ the school .
We really need a secondary school in Burnham for children who can't attend grammar school
We were lucky that our eldest child managed to get into the local Grammar school, but we are very concerned that there are few alternatives if our next 2 children do not pass the 11+.
We would really be great full to have a secondary comprehensive school in Burnham
We're lucky enough to be able to afford the tutoring costs for the 11+ to give our kids a chance at getting into Burnham Grammar (much to our children's understandable disdain as they juggle a tonne of home work!), however, we wouldn't have even thought about this had Burnham Upper still been there and not seemingly run into the ground and setup to fail.
It always seemed a bit suspicious that the police and petrol stations next to the school were both shut and turned into homes, so it's kind of hard not to attribute the schools demise to greed and councillors who probably don't even live in Burnham/Slough, and who are probably a bit snobby about it- which is a huge accusation, but it's very hard not to feel that way when you live on the Slough/Burnham borders, especially with this secondary school (or lack-of) debacle: all houses, no schools and no cares.
Basically, in a country our size and a town that sits just outside London, no one should need to get trains or buses to school and those who have aloud this to happen, should be ashamed of themselves.
Wish we could have a local secondary school

Comments on travel and its impact on after school activities

Absolutely none as they are reliant on private bus
He does these at school now as it's an independent fee paying school
I have to pick them up if they have clubs

If they do them at school, they would miss the bus making getting home difficult as I have other children at another school
It is a rush and they get very tired.
No
No - because of private coach they cannot take part in extra curricular activities
No - too tired and exhausted. Private coach does not wait so our child misses out on extra curricular activities such as sports and after school clubs.
NO Absolutely not, never been an option in the 3 years of attending
No as they have to catch the coach home
No as they won't be able to catch the coach home if they do anything after school
No because its too late to get home
No because my child will miss their coach if they stay behind and attend clubs at school so our child misses out on extra curricular activities which are so important. Parents work so cannot collect.
No because of train home
No because we pay a lot of money for thw bus on a daily basis and I want my child to use it. We also live an hour drive (round trip) from the school if we went to pick her up. With another younger child at home this becomes impossible.
NO Cannot do after school club because need to travel by coach
NO Difficult to participate in after school activities as school is in Maidenhead far from home and so she needs collecting if attending after school club. This is difficult as she can't get the school bus home so I have to make arrangements to have her collected and take time off work which is hugely problematic. She cannot just walk home it is too far.
No due to coach schedule
No due to parents working and no mode of transport to get them home after clubs
No due to work commitments and no travel available
No in winter it gets dark early so she has to come straight home.
No- my children are not able to get home from school if want to stay for after school activities therefore limits being able to participate. Plus the cost is so high it feels a waste of my money to not get the coach home.
NO Not at the school due to needing to travel home via coach. Not able to attend GCSE revision sessions either.
NO Not really
No she cannot take part in after school activities due to needing coach to return home
No they can not do any after school clubs due to no transport
No, because of the school coach they have no other means to get home if they stay after school
No, He used to do boxing but gave up due to being tired on school morning as he has to get up at 6am for school.
No, if they stayed for after school activity she' wouldn't be able to get bus home, unable to collect due to work commitments.
No, not with homework as well
No, unable to partake as she would not be able to get home safely after attending any after school clubs as the coach only does 3.15 pick up
No. They can't attend them because of the need to catch the bus.
No; none possible due to coaches
None at school as it is in different town and can't get them home after clubs
Not at school (because of having to get the coach home)
Not really, because I collect both my older children from Cox Green, it becomes tricky for one to stay for an after school club, if the other one doesn't. It is also tricky to do both the Lent Rise & Cox Green school runs if my husband is away, as I can't physically be in two places at once! If my older children could walk to and from school, this would be a lot easier.
Not really, they are so tired with the to and fro from school

Only if they stay for after school club so I have to pick him up eventhough I have had to pay for the coach
School after school clubs are hard to attend as return journey is reliant on a parent being available to collect. It does affect attendance of intervention classes held for GSCE's.
They don't have sufficient time
We make seperate trips for after school club
Y/N Yes but only on days I'm not working
Yes as they get public transport (train) home
Yes bit then get home very late as the school is 30min away
Yes but only if I pick them up
Yes but only if we pick them up ourselves
Yes but rushing around
Yes but then need picking up
Yes, but as it's a long day prefer to come home
Yes, but she is tired by this point

SUMMARY:

Collated 6th April 2023 - 462 responses

228 from Bucks, 146 from Slough – illustrating the interest across borders – we are one community

396 primary school families and 139 secondary school families identified

12 secondary schools attended

Nearly 70% of primary parents have considered moving to get a local school, 25% have considered home education, and nearly 30% have considered private education.

54% of secondary pupils don't have time for after school activities (because of transport)