

Burnham Community Endorses Need for Secondary Education Option

Visitors to Burnham Fete were extremely supportive of the idea for a new through school in Opendale Road, to meet the needs of Burnham and its neighbouring communities.

In one day, 460 people signed a petition recognising the need for a non-selective secondary education in Burnham.

As many residents may know, Burnham is the only town in Buckinghamshire to have a grammar school but no corresponding non-selective secondary option. Each day, a whole school of children travel from the Burnham community to schools which are mostly out of county. This can cost parents up to £900 per year per child for bus travel. It also results in extra traffic from all the additional journeys and a longer school day for our children.

A working group which has been set up to address the issue, endorsed by and including Burnham Parish Council, believes that a new non-selective school is urgently needed. There are already 9 classes of Year 6 pupils at schools within a ten-minute walk of the Opendale Road site and - as house-building programmes gain pace - it is clear that in the near future, students from Burnham may not be able to gain places in neighbouring county schools as there will simply not be enough places. There is a need for a local secondary school.

Dr Andrew Gillespie, Head Teacher at Burnham Grammar School and Mrs Jill Watson, Head Teacher at Lent Rise School, both expressed their concern over the impact on local children when Burnham Park Academy closed and have joined forces to discuss developing a new through school to ensure that all students have the opportunity to experience an excellent local education. The working group is hoping that the support of the community will help to secure the necessary funding.

How Can You Help?

Sign our petition at <https://burnhamparish.gov.uk/burnham-community-through-school>

Write to Joy Morrissey, MP. You can use the template letter found at the link above.

Questions or comments? Email us at newschool@burnhamparish.gov.uk

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