

# PENHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE BEST WE CAN BE TOGETHER

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The Governing Body of Penhill Primary School writes to formally object to the closure of our school in order for it to be absorbed by the Swindon Academy.

Our objections to this proposal are as follows:-

- The Academy's Key Stage 4 results are not conducive to a quality education for all children as promised and assured by United Learning Trust. A 9% pass rate, well below the government set target of 30%, is disappointing and unacceptable.
- Penhill Primary School's Key Stage 2 unvalidated results continue to show an upward trend, despite the unsettling and disruptive impact these proposals have generated.
- Our parents have shown overwhelming opposition to the proposal, with 92% raising objections during the non-statutory period.
- The Borough's officers did not follow the procedures agreed, in writing, with the then Director of Education and Penhill Primary School's Head Teacher and Chair of Governors.
- The school staff, parents and community groups all feel that the school should remain part of the community; managed and owned by the community and not be absorbed into the Academy.
- Trust Status was never offered as an option for the Head Teacher or Governing Body to consider nor for the first twelve months was the Academy mentioned.
- Whilst acknowledging that floor targets have still to be achieved both by Penhill Primary school and by Swindon Academy, we feel that we would be better off continuing our upward trend without suffering the disruption which the proposal would bring, particularly in the middle of an academic year.

In conclusion, the Governing Body of Penhill Primary School would urge the Council Cabinet to reject this proposal and grant us time to investigate moving to Trust Status.

Yours sincerely,

Member of the Governing Body

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