

Statement: PS08.02

Cabinet – 1 December 2020

Re: Agenda item 8 – Year 7 East Central Sufficiency – 6th Form Proposal for Cabot Learning Federation (CLF)

Statement submitted by: Rebecca Woodward

I am sending this submission for the cabinet meeting due this week looking at the Year 7 Central East shortfall - Agenda item 8.

Please find attached a parents objection to the closing of the secondary school at Avanti Gardens - part of Avanti Schools Trust. (*background paper available*) Not only did this transfer and dismantling of the former Steiner Academy breached the objects of the founding trust but it also has made worst the shortfall of secondary places in Bristol East Central. There are clear legal issues and marginalisation of the local community to suite the incoming trusts business model and not serve the local children and stakeholders.

Please also see attached the Oasis Temple Quarter document which outlines the basic need for secondary places and shortfall. (*background paper available*)

The fact it is written in the Head Teachers Board minutes the Local Authority supported the closure of the secondary side of the Avanti Gardens Schools - seems a dereliction in duty to ensure basic education needs are met. I would like to know what rationale was used to support this closure ?

The school roll number has plummeted to now 129 pupils at the school from 338 in September 2019. A significant number of children are now homeschooling as a result of this transfer and also secondary closure - both secondary children - 30-40 families plus also high number of primary age children.

The result of secondary closure has meant teachers have been made redundant and children are now being homeschooled and displaced from the state funded education.