

Date 13 October 2016

Our ref CF/AG/NF

Dear Parent or Carer

Delay to Occupation of the New School

I am writing to let you know that we have taken the decision to postpone the opening of the new Boroughmuir High School until the start of the new school year in August 2017.

I realise this is hugely disappointing news for the school community but, after reviewing the progress made over recent weeks and the new work programme put forward by the contractors O'Hare McGovern, clearly the school is still several months away from completion.

On Tuesday the Council's Chief Executive, Andrew Kerr, and I met the Chief Executive of O'Hare McGovern to highlight our concerns about the progress of the project and to seek assurance that the project will be completed within the new deadline. At our meeting we made clear our displeasure at the way the project had progressed to date and that any further delays would be unacceptable.

The contractors are now working towards a finishing date of 21 April 2017. After discussions with the Head Teacher, David Dempster, we have decided to postpone the move until after the summer holidays to avoid disruption to pupils during the run-up to the exam period in May. This will also allow opportunities for staff and student orientation visits before the end of the summer term.

This means the school will open as normal on the previously agreed exceptional closure dates (20 to 23 Dec 2016 and 10 Jan 2017). New exceptional closure dates will be

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required for the summer move and the school will confirm these with parents when available.

Having recently visited the site, I am confident that when the new school does open its doors to pupils and staff it will provide an outstanding teaching and learning environment.

I am sorry to have to provide you with this disappointing news. Thank you for your continuing patience with this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alistair Gaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A' and 'G'.

Alistair Gaw
Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families