

Ms Gill Brooks
Brentry Park Development Management Company Ltd
P.O. Box 371
Bristol
BS9 0BH

28th April 2016


Dear Ms Brooks,

I am writing to you following the decision made by RET and the governors of Bristol Free School's in relation to our recent Admissions Policy (2017) consultation.

You will have seen from our website that the governors decided to leave the Admissions Policy as proposed, un-amended. Your group put forward a well-argued and well researched case for a change to our Admissions Priority Area (APA); proposing that it should include the Royal Victoria Park area. Governors and RET largely rejected your proposals for two separate, but related, reasons: Had the governors and trust decided that it was necessary to review the boundaries of Bristol Free School's APA, they would have consulted about that proposal specifically and invited comment on that discrete issue. Leaving this aside, it should be noted that the governors have not at any point considered changing the Bristol Free School APA because it has a natural boundary which follows that of the Bristol City Council Neighbourhood Partnership area. In addition although governors were very sympathetic to the arguments of families in Royal Victoria Park, they believed that moving the APA 'line' (so that the NPA was no longer the boundary) to include a new area would seem selective and unfair.

I realise that this response is disappointing for your group; and I take this opportunity to thank you for your support for Bristol Free School.

Yours sincerely



Karen Lynch
Russell Education Trust CEO and Bristol Free School governor