BLACKWATER
INTEGRATED COLLEGE

Building Inspiring Caring

Circular 2020-21 TL040

To: All parents
Cc: Bursar

May 2021

Development Proposal – Public Consultation Support

As you are aware at Blackwater IC we have been working closely with Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE), Integrated Education Fund (IEF) and a steering group made up of local people, some of whom are parents of students at Blackwater IC, in relation to Educational Area Planning. The working title for the new Integrated College proposed is Mid Down Integrated College.

The Development Proposal has now moved onto the Public Consultation phase and we would urge all parents to add their support to the proposal by writing to the Department of Education and expressing their interest in the proposal being approved.

The Development Proposal and case for change can be found by following this link:
https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/dp-667-mid-down-integrated-college

In order to show support for this Proposal letters can be sent to: Area Planning Policy Team, Department of Education, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19 7PR or emailed to dps@education-ni.gov.uk

If you have not yet filled in an Expression of Interest form for your child for the College it can be found here https://www.nicie.org/mid-down-project/eoi/

There will be press and political interest in this project and the Irish News last week ran a story about the plans and we expect it to feature heavily in the Down Recorder this week. This is nothing to cause any concerns and we are very excited that this proposal is eventually being considered. We believe it offers an excellent pathway moving forward for our students and Integrated Education in the area and urge you to help us with your support using the links above.

As always if you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact us directly on 02844612115 or via email at info@blackwateric.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk and we will be happy to answer all queries.

Throughout this process we will always keep parents, students and staff fully informed of the progress of the proposal at the different phases.

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Ann Toman (Mrs)
Chairperson
Board of Governors