

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 4 FEBRUARY 2004

### BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES – SCHOOL REFERRALS

#### Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Education Committee of the Scottish Executive's response to the referrals made to them for St. Matthew's Primary, St. Joseph's Academy (Cumnock Campus) and Park School as part of the Schools PPP project.

#### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Following the schools PPP public consultation exercise, conducted between November 2002 and January 2003, the Education Committee at its meeting of 12 February 2003 agreed to refer decisions affecting St. Matthew's Primary, St. Joseph's Academy (Cumnock Campus) and Park School for consideration by the Scottish Executive.

#### 3. ST. MATTHEW'S PRIMARY

- 3.1 The decision regarding St. Matthew's was its closure and an amalgamation with St. Columba's Primary, at a new build primary school on the St. Joseph's Academy site at Greenyards Road in Kilmarnock. This proposal was referred to the Scottish Executive as the pupil roll of St. Matthew's is above 80% of its capacity.
- 3.2 After consideration by Scottish Ministers written approval for the proposal relating to St. Matthew's Primary has now been received.

#### 4. ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY (CUMNOCK CAMPUS)

- 4.1 The proposals for the closure of the Cumnock campus and the transfer of pupils to a new build St. Joseph's Academy on the Kilmarnock campus was referred to the Scottish Executive as the distance to the new denominational school for pupils is greater than 10 miles.
- 4.2 Scottish Ministers have now confirmed their approval of these proposals.

**5. PARK SCHOOL**

- 5.1 The decision to close the current Park School buildings and transfer pupils to a new build facility within the campus of Grange Academy at Beech Avenue in Kilmarnock was taken as Park School provides education for young people with additional needs.
- 5.2 Following consideration, Scottish Ministers have now approved the proposals for Park School.

**6. FINANCIAL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Nil.

**7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Members of the Education Committee are asked to:
  - (i) note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew  
Director of Educational and Social Services

EC/JBS  
14 January 2004

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Education Committee – 12 February 2003

Any member wishing further information should contact Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support at (01563) 576090.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : EUAN COUPERWHITE**