



# Glastry College

Principal: Mr A J Hutchinson BSc Hons MSc PGCE PQH (NI)

*Enrich ★ Empower ★ Excel*

14 Victoria Road  
Ballyhalbert  
Newtownards  
BT22 1DQ  
Tel: 028 4277 1226  
www.glastrycollege.org.uk

28 September 2018

Dear Parent/Person with Parental responsibility

## **Re: Newtownards Chronicle Article**

In light of the recent article in the Newtownards Chronicle, I want to make you aware of some facts:

The EA produced a document in June 2018 - Ards & North Down Post Primary Strategic Review - which was issued to all schools in the North Down and Ards area mid-September 2018. All the principals and chairs of all the post-primary schools in the North Down and Ards area were invited to a consultation meeting at the Education Authority in Dundonald. I attended this meeting along with the chairperson of the Board of Governors on Monday 17 September 2018.

The Governors of Glastry College subsequently discussed this document and the proposed models for development outlined within it at their meeting on Thursday 20 September 2018.

There were 3 models outlined in the document, two of which involve a new build for Glastry College as well as the discontinuance of Movilla High School. The other model proposed that there would be no change to provision in the area.

There was also a suggested interim measure, linked to one of the development models, of closing Movilla High School and moving Glastry College onto the current Movilla High School site.

The Chronicle article states that one of the models was a merger of Glastry College and Movilla High School on the current Movilla High school site; in the EA document the word merger is never used and was never part of any discussion.

Following their discussion, the Board of Governors asked me to communicate the following to the Education Authority:

- Glastry College will not contemplate a move to the current Movilla High School site under any circumstances.
- Glastry College will retain its name, identity, ethos, values and culture which are inextricably linked to its rural location on the Ards Peninsula.
- The Board of Governors will welcome a new building for Glastry College which the young people in this community deserve.

Given the unprecedented success in public examinations enjoyed by Glastry students this year I can assure you that together the staff and I will work tirelessly to build on this success, and the legacy of the past 60 years.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A J Hutchinson  
PRINCIPAL