



E-mail: InglebyBo2ss@gmail.com

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Ingleby Manor Foundation Trust (IMFT, formerly BO2SS) is the proposer group behind the Free School for Ingleby Barwick (now known as Ingleby Manor Free School and Sixth Form).

IMFT were put through to the pre-opening phase of the Free School process by the Secretary of State for Education in October 2011. This means that, subject to the signing of its Funding Agreement, the Free School will open in Ingleby Barwick as soon as is practicable.

Currently approximately 986 students attend schools in neighbouring Eaglescliffe and Yarm (Spring 2012 census) and approximately 612 of these students use the 15 buses provided by the local authority (FOI data for 2010/11 school year). This data shows that over 350 students travel to school by other means, usually being driven by their parents. The Free School will dramatically reduce the number of students bussed and driven by parents to these neighbouring schools on a daily basis, as the school will offer a total of 600 11-16 school places and a 150 place sixth form. This will give the students the option to walk to school, make a significant contribution to the environment and save the local authority up to £267,000 per year in transport costs (basis FOI data 2010/11 transport arrangements per pupil transport costs). The school will also provide much needed places as the planned developments in Yarm and Eaglescliffe result in additional students attending existing local schools.

A significant part of the Free School ethos is that the school will be at the heart of the community, with its facilities made available for community use outside of the school day. This will provide local people with much needed additional facilities, and we foresee that the school playing fields and buildings will bring significant benefit to the community beyond the provision of additional secondary school places.

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) have assessed sites in and around Ingleby Barwick for the Free School building, and determined that the site at Little Maltby Farm is the most appropriate location for this. The EFA have negotiated with the landowner on behalf of IMFT and the Department for Education, and the small enabling housing development proposed

alongside the school will make a significant contribution towards the costs associated with the Free School buildings.

We therefore support this planning application, and hope to see planning granted as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SF' followed by a stylized flourish.

Stephen Fryer
Chairman