

**INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENT CAPACITY IN INNER CITY
PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

Name: Rev Robin Davies
Date received: 10 September 2016

The Inquiry

It was 23 years ago when I moved into the Pyrmont/Ultimo region. A few years later a master plan of the area came out stating that as it families, with children weren't expected to settle there so only a small primary school would be required in the future. The existing Ultimo Primary was upgraded but it wasn't long before the enrolments ballooned and the school wasn't big enough for all the students. So a new school was built on the present site – now this is filled to capacity and a new school has to again be built.

With the continued expected developments in the inner city basin the government needs to forward plan. They should build a primary school that will cope with the increase in enrolments for the next 100 years. Building on the same cramped site will not be sufficient, nor is crossing the road into Wentworth park to play adequate.

There is a suitable site 200 metres down the road at the old Wattle Street Depot. This would provide the space for playing fields and expansion that is required. There has been a question over the cost of decontamination however it would be far less money than what is continuing to be spent on finding another site, relocating the children and rebuilding elsewhere. With the Wattle Street Depot site the children could stay where they are until the school is completed and then the present school site could be sold.

Living in the community I know how disruptive the indecision and uncertainty of the future of the school is affecting the children and their parents.

All children have a right to stability in their local school. A place where they can learn and play in a safe environment, with green space around to grow vegetables and have sports fields to run and kick a ball at playtimes.

Please hear the concerns of the people involved and make a just decision that is in the best interests of the children.

Kind regards

Robin

Rev Robin Davies