INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENT CAPACITY IN INNER CITY PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Name: Ms Janet Sayer

Date received: 17 September 2016

Please consider below. This is a once only opportunity to benefit the growing number of children in the Ultimo/Pyrmont inner city area.

Reference (f) Any other related matters:-

While it is difficult to predict numbers of children ready to begin school, the following preschool numbers in the area give some indication:

- KU Maybanke Pyrmont: 45 Children enrolled 2012 2015, full capacity for the 4 years; a waiting list of 90 families in 2016.
- KU Maybanke Ultimo: 60 Children enrolled 2012 2015, full capacity for the 4 years; a waiting list of 300 families in 2016.
- City West: 65 Children enrolled 2012 2015, full capacity for the 4 years; a waiting list of 120 150 children in 2016.
- SDN Pyrmont: 65 Children enrolled 2012 2015 full capacity for the 4 years; a waiting list of 380 families in 2016.

All 4 places have been fully booked for the past 4 years. Some families will be on the waiting lists of more than one centre. Nonetheless, the numbers suggest growing demand for enrolment in kindergarten.

As demonstrated in many recent studies, I believe that kids gain substantial benefit in their development and outlook on life if they have the opportunity to run around in plenty of green space. To quote a study of "Victoria's Schools of the Future – a work in progress, April 10, 2016 by Kathy Evans:

"Young children are not ready for sitting down in classrooms. What they need is a more rounded level of development where they learn the rules of friendship and socialisation in big open areas, and I don't mean ovals."

Ultimo school kids play at Wentworth Park now but soon there will soon be more residents and students using the space. Just do200 metres down the road, local and three x the size of the current Ultimo school is available.

I implore the state government to buy this land to ensure that there will be enough green space and classrooms for the future. All land will soon be sold.

Please listen to my opinion.

Sincerely

Janet Sayer