

Rochdale Health Authority

Chairman: Councillor P.N.E. Hawton
General Manager: Mrs. G. Oates, RGN, DMS, LHSM, FBIM

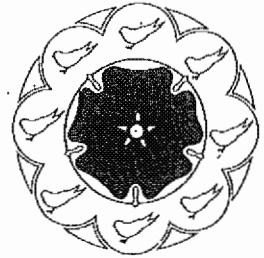
HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT,
PENN ST., ROCHDALE OL16 1HY

Telephone: Rochdale 755068/9

Your Ref

Our Ref

Please ask for



**AIDS UNIT,
Penn Street,
Rochdale
OL16 1HY.**

Ms. D. Cavanagh M.Sc.,
Director of Education,
P.O.Box 70,
Smith Street,
Rochdale.

11th April 1991.

Dear Ms. Cavanagh,

Thank you for your letter of 5th April 1991. It is interesting to note that during my initial trawl of information prior to the training session, no-one gave the slightest indication that there had ever been a meeting, let alone any action at this school. (Indeed it was a member of the education service who invited us into the school to undertake the training, as a "last resort").

I do assure you that taking independent action was never our intention, rather to ensure that co-ordinated, concerted action took place.

Of greatest concern to me is the fact that this week, the staff at the school are still approaching other professionals in an effort to "get something done". There has even been mention of the interest of the newspapers.

Whatever meetings have taken place therefore, it is obvious that no-one has communicated to the staff involved any information whatsoever. In the desire, understandable as it is, to keep the whole thing confidential, this secrecy has unfortunately had exactly the opposite effect.

I have been in close touch with the new headmaster Mr Bradshaw, and passed on to him all information that has come my way, along with my feelings about the difficulties which have resulted from poor communication.

I fully understand what you said, and did not say in your letter, and assure you that my only intention has been and still is, to ensure that the children at the school are protected. In view of one specific concern which, incidentally I share, I will not be copying this letter to anyone.

Yours sincerely,

DPA

Phil Shepherd.
District HIV Prevention Coordinator.