

EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

D.L. Cavanagh M.Sc.,  
Director of Education

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**DPA**

Your Ref

Our Ref

ED5/DLC/KA

Enquiries to

D Cavanagh

Extension

**DPA**

Date

5th May 1992

Dear Mr Bradshaw

**INQUIRY**

I am writing further to my letter of the 15th April 1992 and our meeting this morning concerning the possibility of an inquiry into the role played by staff in events at Knowl View in 1990.

I have now had the opportunity to consult the Union representatives, the Chair of the Education Committee and yourself about the nature and purpose of any inquiry: I have recommended to Councillor Moffat that an inquiry into the role played by staff should be conducted by the LEA as part of its response to Mrs Mellor's report.

The purpose of the inquiry should be to clarify any residual areas of concern about the level of care or management exercised by teaching and non-teaching staff in the months leading to the incident in September 1990. There is the possibility that the inquiry may lead to disciplinary action and staff should be aware of this.

The arrangements will be as follows:

|        |          |             |  |
|--------|----------|-------------|--|
| Monday | 11th May | 8.30 - 9.30 | Briefing for all staff:<br>Union representatives in attendance |
|--------|----------|-------------|--|

|           |          |         |   |            |
|-----------|----------|---------|---|------------|
| Tuesday   | 12th May | morning | ) | Interviews |
| Wednesday | 13th May | all day |   |            |

(all the above to be held at Knowl View School)

/continued ...

The interviews will be held with individual staff and conducted by Mr Hodge Chief Advisor, and Mrs Dobie, Education Officer (Special Education). Staff will be expected to sign statements which they make. A timetable will be drawn up for the interviews in advance and it is expected that all staff will be accompanied by their Union representative or a friend.

This is the third investigation into events at Knowl View: it is important that any residual anxieties are dealt with, so that the school can concentrate on its future role in meeting the needs of pupils. I am therefore arranging for every member of the teaching, care and administrative staff to make a statement, even if (for newcomers) this may amount to a 'nil return'.

I should be grateful if you could assist the Authority with the practical arrangements for the interviews and inform the staff of the contents of this letter at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

**DIANA CAVANAGE**  
Director of Education

Copies to: J Humphreys  
Councillor Mary Moffat  
Councillor P N E Hawton  
Councillor R Sarginson  
Chief Adviser  
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