



Leader of the Council

**Democratic Services
London Borough of Hounslow
The Civic Centre
Lampton Road
Hounslow
TW3 4DN**

Mr Martyn Rose
Chair, Floreat Education Academies Trust
305 Garrett Lane
Earlsfield
London SW18 4EQ

Your contact: Councillor Steve Curran
Mobile: 07785 722190
E-mail: Steve.Curran@hounslow.gov.uk

Date: 14 February 2018

Dear Mr Rose

RE: BBC London News report

I had hoped for a mutually agreed approach to the media in the handling of the current crisis. However, despite our efforts to share our communications in a timely fashion, we have not received the same courtesy from yourselves.

Yesterday, the Trust issued an inaccurate and misleading statement to BBC London, specifically that: "The closure of Floreat Brentford is entirely due to the authorities' failure to secure a permanent school site for our children."

It is clear in the Department for Education's (DfE) Free School Guidance for new Free Schools (April 2017) that it is the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) who are tasked with finding and securing a suitable site for a Free School not the Local Authority.

I am requesting that, as Chair of the Floreat Education Academies Trust Board, you ensure that the statement issued by Floreat yesterday is corrected immediately.

Inaccuracies of this nature are highly damaging reputationally, doing little to resolve the issues, or assuage the concerns of parents/carers during a very difficult time.

I would request that future statements are shared and agreed with us prior to circulation.

Yours sincerely

**Cllr Steve Curran
Leader of the Council**