

11 MAR 2013

6 March 2013

Kathryn Palmer  
Acting Regional Manager  
Ministry of Education  
P O Box 2522  
Christchurch 8140

Dear Kathryn

**Re: Merge Proposal for Woolston School**

The Board of Trustees of Woolston School has carefully considered the Minister's response to our submission with respect to the merge proposal for Woolston and Phillipstown Schools.

We accept without reservation, all aspects detailed in the Minister's interim decision in her letter of 18 February, namely,

1. That Woolston and Phillipstown Schools should merge.
2. That the new merged school should be on the current Woolston School site.
3. That the merger would be implemented from 27 January 2014.
4. That a Ministerially appointed board should be established for the merged school, and
5. That Woolston School would be designated the continuing school.

To date we have not met with the board and principal of Phillipstown School. We are keen to have such a meeting, as we would like to be able to forward you a joint letter from both school boards supporting the Minister's interim merge decision. Our desire is to work cooperatively and collaboratively with both Phillipstown School and the Ministry of Education towards implementing the interim decision. Our commitment is to the children and their families, and to the staff at both schools. We also believe the 27 January 2014 merge date to be critical to the success of the whole process.

We look forward to the Minister's final decision with respect to the merge of Woolston and Phillipstown Schools.

Yours sincerely

Dave Turnbull  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Woolston School

Janeane Reid  
Principal  
Woolston School