

Letter from KH Parents to Public Representatives

Dear

I am writing to you, in advance of the General Election, as a parent of _____ who _____ The King's Hospital, a Protestant fee charging secondary school. My family has made significant sacrifices to be in a position to send my _____ to this school, which is of our ethos and choice.

You will be aware that in recent years the pupil-teacher ratio has incrementally increased to 23:1 for fee-charging secondary schools. This high level of pupil-teacher ratio has increased the financial pressure on schools which, in turn, has caused significant difficulties for families throughout the State, including in your own constituency.

It makes no economic sense to force pupils into the free scheme which costs the tax-payer more money.

As you will be aware, this issue has impacted on Protestant secondary schools which exist to serve a minority community not an elite. This must be a concern to all citizens of this country.

In Budget 2016, the Minister reduced the pupil teacher ratio for non-fee charging secondary schools from 19:1 to 18.7:1. As taxpayers, who fund our children's education from our post-tax income, we are seeking a reduction from the all time high level of 23:1 during the next administration. I am seeking your commitment for such a reduction.

Reducing the pupil-teacher ratio for fee-charging secondary schools will enable more diversity, not less, and enable more choice, not less.

Yours sincerely,