



Debenham High School

A Church of England High Performing Specialist Academy



28th May 2012

To whom it may concern

Letter in support of Debenham Community Swimming Pool

I write in support of the project to obtain a swimming pool on the site of Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School in Debenham.

Debenham has strong links through all the groups within the village and there is a palpable sense of community. I feel that a swimming pool at the school will not only benefit the pupils in the primary stage of their education, but will be a valuable asset to the local community in other ways.

At present the primary school students have to travel some distance to access swimming facilities, at significant cost and disruption. The new pool, with a covered structure to allow year-round use, would mean that students in the community are able to learn this important life skill in a more accessible way. I would expect that there would be many other local schools and groups who would wish to use the pool for the benefit of the young people within our parish. As a rural community there are many small primary schools within our pyramid that could not envisage having such a facility themselves, but would gain benefit from one in the local area.

Whilst it would be unlikely for the High School to access the facilities during the school day it would be of help to students taking GCSE PE, who pick four sports in which they will showcase their skill. At present students who pick this sport have to provide video evidence of their skill for examination purposes. With a pool closer at hand, this could be done during the day with a member of staff. Year 10 and 11 students at Debenham High School study for a sports leader's certificate. I am sure that there would be some students who might wish to develop their life-saving qualifications and hence act as leaders for clubs beyond the school day.

The High School is very much in support of this project, as it is strongly felt that it will benefit the whole community. I am confident that the team of volunteers who are leading this project have the capacity and expertise to see this through to fruition and will deliver a resource that is well-designed and well-managed for the people of Debenham and beyond.

Yours sincerely

Miss J. Upton
Headteacher

Gracechurch Street, Debenham, Suffolk IP14 6BL

Tel 01728 860213 Fax 01728 860998 Email office@debenhamhigh.co.uk Website www.debenhamhigh.co.uk

Headteacher Miss J Upton BSc

Senior Leadership Team: Mr S Martin, Miss S McBurney, Mrs L Ramsay, Mrs T Darby

Chairman of the Academy Trust Rt Rev Nigel Stock, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Chairman of Governors Mr R Boulter