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THE FUTURE OF BATH COMMUNITY ACADEMY.  
Speaker Ms Joanne Hargreaves, parent from BCA. 10.11.16

An effective system operates and is well established at BCA. The school situated on the South West side of Bath is a requirement for the surrounding community. If BCA is condemned for closure, this could be seen as an unjust act that will effect the already over populated schools in this city.

Housing estates in the area are being built and future families will need a school close to their homes. Schools in Bath are under pressure. Teachers are becoming less able to manage over sized classrooms and individual needs.

BCA took direct action this year, to ban the use of mobile phones, which has already limited bullying, via text, face book and other online outlets. BCA staff operate to a high standard and provide a valuable education. A BCA pupil who was rewarded for 100 per cent attendance last year, said to me yesterday, Einstein quoted 'Creativity is intelligence having fun'. Our phoenix project's give us our own choices, allowing students to learn having fun. It is adding experience and the actual doing, that makes our learning grow.

Ofsted took the decision to close BCA on the 26 per cent exam results of 2015. This years exam results 2016, show a significant climb to 56 per cent.

The children show a progressive attitude toward attendance and have the same goals for the academic year 2016-17, even with the unjust pressure of closure, which was presented to them as an unrewarding, disappointing thought right at the beginning of the summer holiday, where pupils and staff should have been able to relax and reflect upon their rising achievements.

The whole community has faced unsavoury remarks, turmoil, and exclusion by the system to de-value its existence. The true experience of BCA has been completely overlooked and this has disrupted the stability of our children's well being.

The special needs section and child protection both function at an outstanding level, reducing anxiety, to ensure its best individual care. It is evident that BCA has its area's of deprivation and anti-social behaviour, like any other school, but this is strongly assisted by the school and the adult community who work together, to prevent problems, wherever possible.

This reduces health and safety risks and the area needs its familiar devotion of staff and families to help control and maintain it to our best ability.

Society has its dynamics, not everyone will fill the expected mould or fashion... So can we please think again as a city that works together for a meaningful and worthwhile cause that benefits the futures of the school children of Bath?

Thank you Jo Hargreaves.