

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

27 July 2010

**QUESTION FROM RUTH GREENING OF TROWBRIDGE TO COUNCILLOR
LIONEL GRUNDY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**IN RESPECT OF: ITEM NO. 7 - REVIEW OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
(SEN) - POST CONSULTATION REPORT.**

Mrs Greening will not be at the meeting but would like a response to the following hypothetical question:

I am a 14 year old girl with a diagnosis of Autism. I have developed a fear of crowds and large schools terrify me. I need a school to be small and welcoming.

I would love to be a doctor, so I can help other people like myself, who have similar problems, which the careers advisers have advised me would be a career option.

I am aware that the only school in Wiltshire that is available to me is Springfields, which caters for ASD.

However, it does not offer Triple Science, and I need this for Uni. I also hate bright places, with loads of noise, like the awful large, commercial kitchen at Springfields, and I want to know why I have to learn to cook in a commercial kitchen, when I hate to cook. I will never be a chef. I want to learn to cook in a small quiet environment like a flat might have. This is not possible. I do not want an NVQ in being a chef! Nor will I ever change a plug, or do plumbing, or change a tyre. I will probably pay someone to do it for me!!

I do not find sports interesting or want to do it as a career. I would like to keep fit by walking to the shops and to the library, where I love to read. I am an avid devourer of books.

By the way, I would not have a peer group at Springfields as there are so few girls, and I am not interested in boys.

Could you please make a place available for me at a school which offers the possibilities for me, of fulfilling my potential, as currently there are no places that are open to me.

These are all my reasons for not wanting to go to Springfields.

When are you going to listen to the young people in Wiltshire? Which school should I go to?

Response

Councillor Lionel Grundy will provide a verbal response at the Cabinet meeting.