

St Joseph's College

518/572 Ravenhill Road Belfast BT6 OBY

(028) 90491280 / 90491474

(028) 90645808

4

jmccourt786@c2kni.net

Principal: Mr Joseph McCourt

10 September 2013

Mr Stephen Walker Portfolio Programme Manager Belfast City Council 24-26 Adelaide Street BELFAST BT2 8GD

Dear Stephen

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Governors to request that a pedestrian gateway is installed allowing access for our pupils to the Cherryvale Playing Fields from the St Joseph's College school grounds.

The request is made from Health and Safety concerns. We are anxious to avoid the need to walk large numbers of pupils from St Joseph's College up the Ravenhill Road to the Cherryvale main entrance.

A gate allowing direct access to Cherryvale from St Joseph's College would be a huge asset in this regard and would allow us to explore the potential of making greater use of the facilities in Cherryvale.

St Joseph's College has no grass playing facilities of its own. In fact the only play area is a gravel surface at the front of the school which initially had been used as tennis courts.

We of course would be more than willing to book and pay for the use of the Soccer and Gaelic pitches in the same manner as other local schools and clubs for competitive sporting fixtures.

We also would like to request some use of Cherryvale space during the school day for some/any of the following:

- (i) Cross country/running/fitness programmes which might use the perimeter of the Cherryvale grounds.
- (ii) Team training and skills development programmes using the Gaelic and Soccer pitch
- (iii)Use of the playing areas for our annual sports day, blitz tournaments and fun days.
- (iv)If Cherryvale were to be developed to include a 3G pitch or all weather facility we would be very interested in negotiating some access to the facility

We understand that there are huge demands already being made on use of Cherryvale playing fields and we are making this request in that context. However we would be extremely grateful for any additional access that we might have to Cherryvale to enhance the health, well being and fitness profile of the pupils in this school.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely

Mr Joseph McCourt

PRINCIPAL