

## Appendix A

**Bexley visit (7<sup>th</sup> October 2005): impressions and issues**

**According to the Deputy Headteacher:**

| <b>The Deputy Headteacher identified the following aspects of the school design as good:</b> | <b>The Deputy Headteacher was not very impressed with the following aspects of the school design:</b> |
|--|---|
| Transparency   |   |
| Open plan classrooms   | Noise issue with some   |
| Wide open corridors and landings   | Plasterboard walls, easily damaged  |
| Few places to hide   |   |
| Few opportunities for bullying   |   |
| Good effect on behaviour   |   |
| Light classrooms   |   |
| TV and radio recording studio  | Kept locked to avoid damage   |
| Large open space for drama   |   |
| Small theatre for drama/dance  |   |
| Lecture theatre  | Kept locked to avoid children hiding in it  |
| Industry standard catering kitchen   | Very small  |
| Lovely food technology room  | Only 1 for 1300 school  |
| Extremely well equipped DT workshop  | Only 1  |
| Well fitted science labs   | Only 7 and on different floors  |
|  | No projector screen/ whiteboard   |
| Internal courtyard spaces  | Count as classrooms but too noisy   |
| Large hard play area   | Not provided, only just built   |
| Large central atrium and canteen   | Too noisy, now glass partitions   |
|  | New partitions = no space for assembly  |
| Entry by swipe card, good security   |   |
| Swipe card also = cashless dining  |   |
| Swipe card gives access to photocopier   |   |
| High quality gym and changing rooms  | Entry through school from playing fields  |
| Hotel standard toilets   | Easily damaged  |
| External decked area   | Can not use because of H & S issues   |
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**According to the children on the visit:**

| <b>The students identified the following aspects of the school design as good:</b> | <b>The students were not very impressed with the following aspects of the school design:</b> |
|--|--|
| Glass, open corridors and stairs, very bright, looked modern                       | Everyone can see if you fall down stairs   |
|  | Would get distracted in open classrooms  |
|  | Boy threw pen off balcony at receptionist  |
|  | Low ceilings in classrooms   |
| Glass everywhere no chance of bullying   |  |
| Climbing wall very realistic   |  |
| Basketball hoops – cool  |  |
|  | Walking dirt through school after games  |
|  | Toilets were dark (boys) graffiti (both)   |
| Furniture, bright colours, comfortable   |  |
| Drama theatre  |  |
| Industry catering kitchen  |  |
| DT workshop  | Only 1 is silly  |
| TV and radio studio  |  |
| Art rooms  |  |
| Glass conference room  |  |
| Conference room leather chairs   |  |
| Photo wall of students/staff in reception  | Embarrassing?  |
| Whole wall interactive whiteboards   |  |
| External security, cameras, gate   | Made it feel like a prison, airport, Fort Knox   |
| Canteen  |  |
| ID swipe cards, no need for cash   |  |
| The students at Bexley were really friendly and respected their school             |  |
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