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March 2017

To The Honourable Rob Stokes MP

Minister for Education

GPO Box 5341

Sydney 2001

Dear Minister,

Chatswood Public School is under serious pressure due to an exponential growth in student enrolments these past years that has not been met by the Department of Education’s addition of various temporary demountables. The School has forfeited its library and art room to provide core classrooms. A fire in January has meant that our music tutoring rooms have gone.

With governmental regional plans pushing for significant population growth in Chatswood, and ongoing residential apartment plans in the Chatswood CBD continuing to add 100 students per year to Chatswood Public School, I firmly request that the Department of Education find land and build permanent classrooms either at CPS or elsewhere nearby Chatswood CBD to accommodate the *expected* and *deliberately planned* increase in primary students in the immediate area. Even if there were no further new residential apartments approved, when local CBD rental apartments change tenants they are often replaced with families keen to get to one of the best schools in the state and willing to offer a premium rent.

Chatswood Public School is at crisis point already, with no room for more temporary classrooms and staff jumping hoops to accommodate the too-many students we already have. The next few hundred students expected in just the few years will break the school.

I don’t believe changing the catchment boundaries around Chatswood Public School would noticeably reduce the number of kids, since most of our students walk from medium and high rise apartments within a few hundred metres east of the school.

Signed

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