

**REPLY BY THE MINISTER OF  
THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
TO A QUESTION ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 6 OF THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY L. S. TROTT**

**Question 1**

*A recent media report indicated that the Education Department intends to close the Sixth Form Centre at the Grammar School in order to merge it with the other post 16 providers (College of Further Education and the Guernsey Training Agency) as part of their stated plans for a Tertiary College. Can the minister confirm or deny the plan to close the Sixth Form Centre at the Grammar School?*

**Answer 1**

The Guernsey Press made the above comment in its report on the establishment of a new Governing Body for the College of Further Education and the Department's wish to appoint a new Chair of Governors.

The full media release relating to this is available on the Department's website [www.education.gg](http://www.education.gg) where all media releases are published in full. The release references the Education Board's Vision.

It is unfortunate on this occasion that the Guernsey Press misquoted what is actually included in the Vision document regarding the Board's plans for tertiary education. There are two references within the Vision document:

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***Tertiary and Higher Education***

We must bring together and rationalise the range of Post 16 educational opportunities available within the Bailiwick. At this stage the Department is exploring opportunities to bring all further and higher education in various States Departments within the Education Department. As a consequence of this rationalisation, we will be able to offer a portfolio of flexible and wide ranging courses suitable to meet individual and community needs within a tertiary institution. This would also provide increased opportunity for on-island Higher Education. At the same time we must review our funding and delivery of higher education opportunities to ensure potential students have access to the university and course which is best able to meet their individual needs and aspirations.

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- Development of a Tertiary College which will bring together current providers of Post 16 education to offer a broad range of high quality, engaging, education and training opportunities which are responsive to individual and community needs.

Within the Workstreams and Timescales section of the Vision the Board commits to bringing a States Report to the Assembly recommending the creation of a new structure for Post 16 education during 2013.

As can be seen from above, at no point in the Vision does the Board state it is planning to close the Grammar School Sixth Form Centre. What it is planning to do is to seek closer collaboration between all those providing Post 16 education on the Island.

I can confirm that the Board's Vision will be debated by the Assembly at its meeting in July

I am disappointed that this sort of inflammatory reporting can lead to such wild speculation about the Education Board's plans which have been extensively circulated and shared with Education's staff, States Members and the wider community at a series of public meetings and presentations.

**Question 2**

*Has any evidence based research has been undertaken to establish whether this would improve standards and be a more cost effective and efficient model of delivery within the Bailiwick of Guernsey?*

**Answer 2**

Evidence based research for closer collaboration between existing on-Island Post 16 providers and the impact this will have on standards and efficient models of delivery will be included within the Department's States Report due to be published towards the end of the year.

**Question 3**

*Given the indication that the Education Board plans to rebuild La Mare De Carteret site can the minister confirm that his department's intention is to retain four secondary schools in the island plus St Anne's Alderney?*

**Answer 3**

It is the Education Board's intention to retain four secondary phase schools in Guernsey plus St. Anne's in Alderney.

**Date of Receipt of the Question: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Date of Reply: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013**