

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER RESPONSE TO RISC PRESS RELEASE 11 APR 12

From: Eddie Tulasiewicz [<mailto:eddi@rcdow.org.uk>]

Sent: 11 April 2012 16:26

To:

Subject: RE: EMBARGOED TO 00:01 12 APR: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CASE GOES TO COURT

Statement from diocese of westminster

The Diocese of Westminster believe that Richmond Council have acted entirely properly in respect of proposals for the establishment of new Voluntary Aided Catholic primary and secondary schools in the borough.

The proposed court case being brought by RISC and the British Humanist Association, a national organisation that campaigns against the existence of all schools with a religious character, seeks to use procedural arguments to prevent an entirely legitimate proposal to increase the educational choices available for parents and children in Richmond.

The proposed new Catholic schools would add greater diversity of choice by enabling those seeking a Catholic education for their children to benefit from a continuum of Catholic education from ages 4 to 18.

The proposed new schools are also likely to bring additional benefits by releasing places at other local schools which are currently being taken up by those who would prefer a Catholic education