



Dear Mr Nelson,

I wish to object to planning application 2014/7847/P as the ward councillor for Frognal & Fitzjohns Ward and thus Arkwright Road.

The change of use of 1-3 Arkwright Road to educational usage is unacceptable. NW3 already has an immense number of private schools. The impact of these schools on local residents is immense due to the very large quantity of parents who choose to drive their children to school. Officers have consistently said that the only power open to Camden to reduce the impact of the school run on residents is to oppose the change of use of buildings. Hence I am now opposing this application.

The amenity of local residents will be greatly impacted if this school goes ahead. The 'kiss and drop' bay will not address the issues caused by this application. The building is located at the top of Arkwright Road by the junction with Fitzjohns Avenue. Cars will approach the school from both directions and will therefore cause traffic jams up Arkwright Road as they seek to cross traffic to park at the bay and from both directions on Fitzjohns Avenue as they seek to turn into Arkwright Road and find the bay is occupied.

The planned school is literally located at the worst possible nexus of the school run in Hampstead.

The school's estimates for the number of additional car journeys are fantastical. Girls are more likely to be driven to school than boys, owing to fears over security. The estimates were made for the existing boys' school. Even if there were a need for additional Roman Catholic girls' school places in Camden, which they aren't if you consider Maria Fidelis, then they are most likely to be filled by girls likely to attend LSU. This will then prompt other girls to take their places at LSU by themselves travelling further to school by car, so further adding to Camden's school run problem.

I wish St Anthony's all the best, but the local area is saturated in terms of private school places (as opposed to local state-funded school places) and neighbourhood amenity must now come first.

Please therefore reject this application.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Andrew Mennear
Frognal & Fitzjohns Ward



Dear Claire Leyland

I have seldom had reason to write to you as my local councillor but an issue has come to my attention on which I would welcome your support. St Anthony's School in Hampstead has submitted an application to convert the neighbouring property into an extension to their current facilities in Arkwright Road.

This is a once in a generation opportunity for the school to expand so that it can continue to meet the needs of the community by educating girls as well as boys. By expanding into the building next door the school is able to create 140 new places and a mixed-sex nursery without all of the disruption that creating a brand new building would cause for residents. It will also have a significant impact on pupil safety by cutting by almost 80% the number of times children have to cross the busy junction of Arkwright Rd and Fitzjohn's Avenue.

Please consider that fewer crossings are not only better for safety, but will help improve traffic flow at the junction and St Anthony School has demonstrated already a strong commitment to sustainable travel, having been awarded the TfL "Bronze Award".

Furthermore, this project will create an opportunity for 15 new jobs for teachers and supporting staff.

I would welcome any support you could give to this proposal as I understand the Council's Planning Committee will consider this application due course. Many thanks for taking on board my views – I do hope common sense will prevail. I am advised that the council officer in charge of this application is Mr Oliver Nelson, whom I am advised I must be copied into my note to ensure it is registered to the application.

Regards

Mrs Anna Barassi Serra
5 Belsize Park, NW3 4ET

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Anna Barassi

