

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/1590/P	Daniella Fachler	32 Rosslyn Hill Flat 1 NW3 1NH	19/05/2016 22:29:42	SUPPRT	<p>Dear Madame/Sir,</p> <p>I am writing to reply to some of the objections. From your web site I could see that most of them just repeat the letter send to Hampstead residents by Mr. Todd Berman.</p> <p>To start with, Hampstead and Belsize Park are a bastion of private schools. The majority of state school there are church schools. I wouldn't even say faith school, because they all belong to a church. For someone that cannot afford a private school and does not want a religious education for his child, there aren't many options – 3 exactly, and they are all oversubscribed. Isn't it the state duty to ensure that also teachers, nurses and scientists can send their children to a local school that represent secular inclusive values? It pains me to see that labour politicians are the most vocal objectors for partisan reasons only. I always thought that Labour was the champion of equal education opportunities. Sadly, not in this case.</p> <p>My second point relates to the location. Many of the supporters pointed out that the location of the school is not in Belsize Park and that most students do not live in the area. This is simply not true. The location is exactly mid way between the Hampstead and Belsize Park underground station. The students almost entirely come from the catchment area which includes Belsize Park and parts of Hampstead. My son started reception at the school this year and we live on Rosslyn Hill right next to the proposed location. The details of the letter by Mr. Berman about the residence of the pupils is odd, to say the least. From the locations mentioned one might think that the objectors resent the fact that the pupils do not have the same socio-economic background as they would like to see, the same colour or religion. It was highly disappointing to see a letter written in that manner.</p> <p>As for the congestion. It is highly inflammatory and again, far from the true. The school has a no cars policy from the outset. The plans for the redevelopment specifically allocate ample of parking areas for kids' scooters and bikes as well as bike racks for adults. It is enough to look at the plans in order to realise it. This was not the case when it was indeed a police station and no one can ensure that this will be the case if the building is redeveloped as shops or flats. In addition, the plans ensure that this beautiful building remains in the use of the local community.</p> <p>Noise was another comment in the letter that was disconnected both from expert opinions and the example from school in the area itself (2 of which are private and one state). Both The Village School, South Hampstead High School and New End School have rooftop play areas and these do not cause additional noise to the areas in which they are located due to walls that reflect the noise up. A noise engineer report also confirms that this will be the case of the new development. In addition, Rosslyn Hill is very noisy as it is – with trucks, busses, vans and ambulances (going to the Royal Free Hospital) rushing up and down the road all day and night.</p> <p>Discussions about the development with local businesses shows that they are in favour, especially those directly closed to the school as they already serve families.</p> <p>Lastly, I would like to comment on the state of the building and the ongoing degradation in its condition. I took a picture last week while passing by the police station. The front of the building and</p>

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					<p>stairs were severely littered. The state of abandonment is costing Camden money, we Camden needs to clean it, and as was the case before, is attracting squatters which again, is costing money in form of security arrangement. A fully functioning school does not have these problems. The opposite is true – it has an incentive to maintain and enhance the building. I am happy to email you the picture if needed.</p> <p>I thank you for your time and hope the application will be approved.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Daniella Fachler</p>
