

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/6142/P		12/06/2018 14:26:31	OBJ	<p>Whilst the location of the fence is at the rear of the Nursery and therefore 'not visible from the street or main pedestrian thoroughfare', as pointed out in the Planning Application, it is more than visible to the residents of Auden Place, many of whom face into the square. It is obtrusive and ugly. In its original state with sharp spikes atop the bars it was even more unsightly and potentially dangerous. The height of the fence destroys the aspect of the Auden Place architecture. Coupled with the inadequate and damaged bin covers attached to the rear wall of the Nursery, for which I have not been able to find a Planning Application history, and the unsightly Pram Shed constructed by the front door of the Nursery, for which I also have been unable to find a Planning Application history, the Nursery 'rear' area presents an extremely unsightly aspect for the residents of Auden Place. The notion that these structures are not visible 'from the street' is insulting as they are all inescapably visible to many residents of Auden Place. The fence, in my view, is not sympathetic to the original design of the Conservation Area, neither are the several bin cupboards attached to the Nursery wall and the Pram Shed, built next to the main entrance of the Nursery. The fence, the bin cupboards and the Pram Shed are extremely unsightly.</p> <p>Previously, Full Planning Permission was granted for the 'insertion of a mezzanine at second floor level, creation of a roof terrace with glazed balustrading and erection of a new stair element on the second and third floor to provide access to the mezzanine and the roof terrace for the existing nursery to include enlargement of roof extension' designed, Auden Place residents were informed, to provide an adequate outside playspace for the older children. The ground floor playspace, we were told, was designated for babies and younger children. To claim that 'older children are now using the garden and were able to climb over the previous fence' seems entirely contradictory; the playspace for the older children is on the roof terrace. Despite the fact that the older children are supposedly not in need of the ground floor playspace (previously declared inadequate due to its size), they are always in the care of a Nursery worker whilst playing there and therefore should never have the opportunity of climbing over the fence. I have lived in Auden Place for decades and have never seen a child from the Nursery scale the wall as claimed. An unsightly set of high railings would appear to be unnecessary. The noise levels have considerably increased since the older children have returned to using the ground floor playspace. At times, for those of us living in extremely close proximity to the Nursery, this can prove intolerable. I have to say that the noise levels are greatly reduced when the roof terrace space is used as a play area for the older children.</p> <p>Rather than ensuring a safe environment the fence appears to present an irresistible allure for the older children who spend quite a lot of time hanging around the fence, calling through the railings to passersby for example. The fence could also pose a potential danger should a Nursery worker not be in attendance as the children are so attracted to it. If, as claimed, 'older children are now using the garden and were able to climb over the previous fence', erecting a much higher set of railings is unlikely to deter them from attempting to climb.</p> <p>I also feel that the fence represents a potential danger to resident or visiting children playing in the square at times when the Nursery is closed, for the same reason.</p>