

DATED 16th April 2019

**STATUTORY DECLARATION TO SUPPORT AN APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
LAWFULNESS OF EXISTING USE OR DEVELOPMENT**

BY

ELLEN BOLSON

I, ELLEN BOLSON, of [REDACTED] do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

Background

1. I joined The Village School (the **School**) at its inception in 1985 as a teacher, at which point the School was located in Tufnell Park and was co-owned and jointly operated by Fanny Prior and Carol Gay.
2. In 1993, the School moved to its present site at 2 Parkhill Road, London NW3 2YN (the **Property**) following a purchase by Fanny Prior and Carol Gay jointly of the Property from, I believe, The Mayor and Burgesses of The London Borough of Camden (the **Council**).
3. Since April 1993 to date, the Property has been continuously used as an independent school within use class D1.
4. I was continuously employed as a teacher at the School from 1985 until September 2009, when I entered into a partnership with Carol Gay and began jointly running the school as a deputy headmistress with Carol Gay. I have been continuously employed as the deputy headmistress at the School between September 2009 to date.

History of the School

5. The School was founded by Fanny Prior and Carol Gay in 1985 and was situated in premises in Tufnell Park until the purchase of the Property in 1993;
6. The School is an independent preparatory school for girls aged three to eleven;
7. Between 1985 and 2007, the school was owned and co-run by Fanny Prior and Carol Gay, and I was employed as a teacher throughout that period.
8. In 1999, the 'Bigsby Hall Annex' was opened, which provided additional multi-purpose educational space at the School;
9. On 30 November 2007, I believe that Carol Gay purchased Fanny Prior's interest in the School and the Property and became the sole proprietor of the Property and the sole headmistress of the School;
10. In 2009, I entered into a partnership with Carol Gay and became a fixed salaried partner and deputy headmistress of the School, and I have been the continuous deputy headmistress of the School to date;

11. The last three inspections of the School by OFSTED have rated the School 'Outstanding', the most recent inspection taking place in February 2017;

Use of Property since 1993

12. Following the purchase of the Property from the Council in 1993, the School began operating from the Property at the start of the Summer Term in 1993;
13. I understand that **Exhibit A** to the Statutory Declaration of Carol Gay are photographs taken at Property. I confirm that these photographs show:

13.1 The School's 10th Anniversary Fete, which was held on 22 June 1996 at the Property;

13.2 Carol Gay and myself standing in front of the sign at the front of the Property, which reads:

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL
Headmistress Mrs. F. Prior
Deputy Headmistress Miss C.E.F. Gay
PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
AGED 4-11 YEARS
Telephone: 0171 485 4673
2 Parkhill Road Belsize Park London NW3 2YN

13.3 I note that the telephone number included in the sign is in the '0171' format, which to my recollection, were only used between 1995 and 2000;

13.4 Students and teachers in the rear playground. It is clear that the Bigsby Hall Annex had not yet been built, as this was constructed in the location of the rear playground in 1999;

14. I consider that these photographs provide clear evidence that the School was operating from the Property in June 1996.
15. I can confirm that, since the commencement of the Summer Term in 1993 to date, the Property has been continuously operating as a School.

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Signature of declarant...



Declared at Seddons 5 Portman Square
on 16th April 2019
before me Sarah Crook Solicitor

Signed Sarah.....

Seddons Solicitors
5 Portman Square
London
W1H 6NT

Se.

ELLEN

EXHIBIT A TO THE STATUTORY DECLARATION OF ~~CAROL~~ BOLSON

Pe.

ELLEN

This is Exhibit A referred to in the declaration of ~~Carol~~ Bolson declared on [DATE].

Before me:

Sign 

Commissioner for oaths

SARAH CUCKER.

Seddons Solicitors
5 Portman Square
London
W1H 6NT

EXHIB A (C8)





