
From: Fowler, David
Sent: 06 June 2019 15:31
To: Planning
Subject: FW: objection - 2019/2375/P

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Please log objection.

Thanks,

David

David Fowler
Principal Planner

Telephone: 0207 974 2123



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 June 2019 20:09
To: Fowler, David <David.Fowler@camden.gov.uk>
Subject: objection

please log on my objection and confirm receipt of the enclosed thank u
reasons below
i support also all pertinent points from other objections
thank you
[REDACTED]

i strongly yobject to a school being at the site of the old police station in hampstead

terrible idea enough schools here don't want more air pollution from cars school run we have plenty of
primary schools here
unnecessary cost
At over £20mextravegant and unnecessary costs
Unnecessary
There's no need for a new state primary school in Hampstead.

Not For Hampstead Children

Abacus Belsize primary school expressly excludes Hampstead children. absolutelyterrible isn't
the point of a primary school that it serves the local community and local children can feel part of
the community and walk to school totally unacceptable

Traffic

Abacus Belsize is creating a new, unnecessary school run.

Existing Policy

Because of pollution, Camden planning policy specifically forbids new schools in Hampstead.

Abacus Belsize is asking Camden Planning for permission to create an entirely new and unnecessary school run. More cars mean more pollution.

Unnecessary

There is no need for a new state primary school. In and around Hampstead and Belsize Park, there are already over 650 more primary school places than are needed. Over the next decade, this oversupply of school places will double as forecasted demand drops. (2018 Annual School Places Planning Process Report, Camden Council.) This means that some local schools such as New End Primary School already see a reduction in their ability to fill school places, which means a cut to their budget.

Not For Hampstead Children

Though the school's administrators want their school located in Hampstead, Abacus Belsize has a dedicated catchment area which expressly EXCLUDES Hampstead children (The Abacus Belsize Website).

Should the school not fill its places with children from Belsize Park, then the measuring point for remaining admissions is proximity to Belsize Square. In short: a primary school located in Hampstead would prioritise children from Primrose Hill, South Hampstead and West Hampstead over Hampstead children living closer to the school. Each day, young children outside the area—some at a great distance—will commute to and from Hampstead.

Abacus Belsize is a commuter school.

Wrong Location

Hampstead already has a significant concentration of schools—37 schools, ten colleges, as well as a number of preschools and nurseries. Not least in terms of adding to air pollution, it is bad planning to put a Belsize Park School in Hampstead. Moreover, there is no guarantee that Abacus Belsize will not increase its student numbers in the future.

Far more suitable sites—at a fraction of the cost—within the Belsize Park catchment area have been ignored or rejected by Abacus Belsize, and their central government sponsor, the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Picked by central government—at the expense of the Hampstead community—Hampstead Police Station is an inappropriate site for a Belsize Park primary school.

Pollution

At present, the Nitrogen Dioxide concentration in front of Hampstead Police Station is over the legal limit. Because of the harmful effect of air pollution on children, the National Institute for Clinical Excellence has called for no new schools to be built on main roads. At 56 µg/m³ where the legal limit is 40 µg/m³, NO₂ levels at Hampstead Police Station not only exceed the government's 'safe' level—pollution there regularly breaches the legal limit.

These levels of pollution are wholly unacceptable for the elderly, infirm and children.

Noise and Congestion

Abacus Belsize will increase noise and traffic congestion in Hampstead.

In addition to a permanent increase in the number of cars on Hampstead's roads, twice a day, during the school run, Abacus Belsize proposes to put an additional 400 parents and children, plus staff, plus those in their business centre—approximately 500 people—at one of the busiest

intersections in Hampstead.

At the two most traffic-congested times of the day, hundreds of people will converge on existing and proposed crosswalks, slowing traffic, increasing motor vehicle queuing and idling—creating more noise and more air pollution.

Traffic

Abacus Belsize will increase car traffic in Hampstead.

Abacus Belsize has a 'car-free ethos'—but the school is not car free. Bad weather, carrying heavy bags or musical instruments, needing the car before or after drop-off or pick-up, having children at different schools, families moving to a home further from the school, or simply being late in the morning—these are some of the everyday reasons parents give for car journeys to and from school.

Hampstead's New End School also strongly discourages car use. Despite all their good efforts, the school has significant issues with parents driving their children to school. A recent show of hands in a Camden Council initiated meeting at New End, disclosed that about 30% of parents regularly drive to or from school—and this is a school which serves local residents.

Traffic experts estimate at least 25% of Abacus Belsize parents will drive their children to or from the school each day. (This figure does not include the vans and lorries driving to and from the school to deliver food and supplies, or the vehicles used by maintenance workers, or the cars that will deliver and collect staff, cleaners and visitor