

**From:** shira klasmer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 July 2019 22:51  
**To:** Fowler, David [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Abacus Belsize Primary - Local Education at a Local Home

Dear David Fowler,

Thank you for your time to read this email. I am writing to ask you to seriously consider the wonderful prospect of bringing Abacus Belsize School close to home - to the former Hampstead Police station. This building will be in walking distance for my 5 year old daughter and in the future my second daughter (currently 22month old).

My husband and I live close to Swiss Cottage tube station and we have both lived in this area for over 13 years. I have been active in the local community of Hampstead, Belsize park and West Hampstead as a Taiji Quan teacher running various classes at the Hampstead Community Centre, the Royal Free Hospital and other locations.

We came upon Abacus Belsize Primary searching for a local state school. Both of us are of jewish roots and the options for a secular school in the area are very limited. Catchment areas for many of the local schools are so small that you almost have to live on top of the school to get a place.

We are very happy and content with Abacus Belsize School and our daughters' education. It is a warm and loving environment, with a fantastic team of teachers and staff who are passionate to educate and share knowledge.

I walk my daughter every day to the bus stop and she boards the coach to Kings Cross where the school is currently located.

Bringing the school close to the Belsize Park area will enable us as a family to walk to school. It will give great benefit to my daughter to know her neighbourhood, its people, local businesses, as well as experience the passing seasons during her daily walk to and from school.

Having the school closer will also enable us as parents to engage more with the school, we can drop off our child and have the chance to see and talk face to face with the teacher, head teacher and other staff within the school building and not at the bus stop or on special occasions such as school assemblies.

I believe the building of the former Hampstead Police Station is very well suited to be converted to a primary school. The location is close to Hampstead Heath where the school runs many of its educational activities such as outdoor learning and sports day. I also believe that it will bring together our communities of Hampstead and Belsize Park closer. The prospects of a communal space within the building but also with other schools activities such as the summer fair and various seasonal festive activities.

I do hope that you can look at the positive and beneficial implications of Abacus moving to the Former Police Station. The future is for local education that is local to home.

Thank you

Shira

