

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2020/2452/P	Stephen Williams for and on behalf of the Netherhall Neighbourhood Association	16/07/2020 23:44:13	OBJ	<p>The NNA strenuously oppose this application to extend Northbridge School. The proposal will provide additional floor space with one additional large classroom. It will also provide additional external educational space at 2nd floor level. The application is silent regarding this leading to additional school children to the current school roll of 225. It is clear this proposal will facilitate an increase. The application should therefore be refused and the 225 schoolchildren maximum be reaffirmed with enforceable measures put in place by Camden to ensure there is no current or future increase.</p> <p>It is Camden's Policy to restrict any increase in school population in Hampstead and Belsize where there are 25 schools, a quantity far exceeding the requirement of local residents. A considerable proportion of school children are not from local homes, many coming from outside of Hampstead. This results in high levels of school-run generated traffic. The probable increase in school children arising from these proposals will result in additional school-generated traffic within the already highly congested surrounding streets.</p> <p>Camden recognise the problem and the Camden Local Plan 2017's clause 4.33 states: 'Hampstead and Belsize Park have a very high concentration of schools where significant issues exist concerning the 'school run'. We will refuse applications for new schools or the expansion of existing schools in these areas, unless it can be demonstrated the number of traffic movements will not increase.'</p> <p>The Applicant has not demonstrated that the proposed increase in both internal and external teaching area will not increase school numbers nor that this will not generate additional school-run traffic.</p> <p>The Mayor's Policy is to reduce air pollution around schools with the initiative of introducing Healthy School Streets by reducing and controlling traffic movement. In September this is being introduced by Camden Council in the Netherhall Neighbourhood. It has been demonstrated that this will result in additional traffic in surrounding streets including the already highly congested Fitzjohn's Avenue and nearby streets in Belsize. Increasing school accommodation at Northbridge School will further increase local traffic and pollution in these streets and flies in the face of both Camden's and the Mayor's policy.</p> <p>The introduction of an external space for children to the rear of the building at 2nd floor level will increase noise levels. Noise at higher levels increases the degree of disturbance to surrounding properties. On either side of Northbridge School there is residential accommodation and the area between Fitzjohn's Avenue and Maresfield Gardens is largely residential gardens, where local residents enjoy the amenity of their gardens. Introducing open school space at high level overlooking these residential gardens will cause noise pollution and resultant loss of amenity. It should be refused.</p> <p>The proposed extension is an incongruous addition to the existing building and totally out of keeping with the Conservation Area.</p> <p>We therefore ask that you reject this application.</p> <p>Stephen Williams For and on behalf of Netherhall Neighbourhood Association</p>

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2020/2452/P	Jenny White	21/07/2020 21:44:04	OBJ	<p>I wish to oppose this application in the strongest possible terms.</p> <p>The proposal will provide additional floor space including a large classroom, and extra space outside at 2nd floor level.</p> <p>Numbers The proposal doesn't say if this will increase the current school roll of 225 but it clearly has the potential to do so. The Applicant has given no commitment to keep to the existing number. The cap of 225 should remain and be enforced by Camden. Camden's policy is to restrict any increase in school population in Hampstead and Belsize. There are already 25 schools attracting a significant proportion of children from outside the area.</p> <p>School traffic The existing number leads to high levels of school traffic in what are already highly congested local streets. The possibility of more children will exacerbate the problem. Camden's Local Plan 2017 explicitly says they will refuse applications for new or expanded schools in these areas, unless it can be shown there will be no impact on traffic. The Applicant has not demonstrated that.</p> <p>Air pollution The Mayor's Policy is to reduce air pollution in the vicinity of schools via a Healthy School Streets initiative to restrict traffic movement. Camden is introducing it in our neighbourhood in September. The effect will be to increase traffic in Fitzjohn's Avenue, already highly congested, and nearby streets in Belsize. The Applicant's proposal, which runs counter to both the Mayor's and Camden's policy, will make that problem even worse.</p> <p>Noise pollution The proposal provides for extra outdoor space at the back of the building at 2nd floor level. It will overlook the residential properties either side of Northbridge School and the gardens between Fitzjohn's Avenue and Maresfield Gardens, causing noise pollution and loss of amenity.</p> <p>Out of character The proposed extension is not in character with the existing building and wholly out of keeping with the Conservation Area.</p> <p>For all these reasons I urge you to reject this application.</p>
