

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 24/2117/VRC

Address: Hampton Pre-Prep And Prep School Gloucester Road Hampton TW12 2UQ

Proposal: Variation of planning approval 13/2102/FUL - Condition Number(s): 13 (U67172) - Restriction on pupil numbers to allow to increase pupil numbers from 144 to 176.

Comments Made By

Name: Mr. Trevor Alldridge

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Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: When the application for a new and enlarged school was submitted in 2011, permission for 176 pupils was refused on traffic grounds. Permission for the new buildings was eventually granted in 2013 on the condition that numbers were restricted to 144 and travel plans were submitted annually. Those travel plans have relied on flimsy evidence consisting mainly of 'hands up' surveys of 7 - 11 year old children and parking monitoring carried out over just two or three days in the year. Neighbouring residents have contested every one of the plans, pointing to distorted use of statistics and flawed methodology, particularly in relation to the count of 'available' spaces in Wensleydale Gardens and Scotts Drive, where the narrow and twisting road layout and dropped kerb areas were not properly taken into consideration. Actual traffic jam instances were never adequately captured and the Leader of the Council himself spoke at the last Planning Committee hearing to confirm the traffic problems. This new application revisits the original 2011 concerns. The original issues and worries still remain and yet the school has not provided convincing evidence of workable measures to mitigate the inevitable additional strain on local traffic and parking such an uplift in numbers would bring.