

Planning

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 March 2026 17:36
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to plan to rebuild Lenzie Academy at Whitegates Park: Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

Reference number TP/ED/26/0104:

As a local resident, living in Moncrieff Avenue, the green space of Whitegates is an important green space. When my boys were young it was a great place for skateboarding, and there was a fun park. It is still lovely for walks, even if wellies are always required.

I want to strongly object to the current plan to re-position Lenzie Academy to that precious green space. I object on two main bases. First, to do so is adding a considerable amount to the total cost, in the region of £5m which could be spent to benefit all residents in Lenzie in so many different areas, such as repairing roads to a less potholed state. Second, it is an area of natural wildlife with bats and deer. We need green spaces, for so many reasons, including the climate and natural wellbeing of residents.

Here is a list of reasons for my objections, as compiled by one of the residents in Lenzie, with a few amendments made by myself:

1. Loss of public parkland

Whitegates Park is approximately 68,000 square metres of public green space currently used for recreation by the local community. Building the school there would permanently remove this parkland. To those of us who go dog walking, it is a great place to go.

2. Environmental mitigation cost

Project documentation associated with the proposal identifies £7.76 million in mitigation measures required due to the loss of green space and impacts on the local nature network if development takes place at Whitegates Park. Such a sum could be used on a different project within the county, such as road repairs.

3. Contaminated land remediation

Project planning includes £4.8 million allocated for the removal of hazardous waste materials from the Whitegates Park site prior to construction due to contaminants identified in earlier ground investigations.

4. Total estimated project cost

Council documents estimate the total project cost for the new Lenzie Academy development at approximately £138,069,227.79.

5. Existing school campus already available

The current Lenzie Academy campus at Myrtle Avenue already has established school infrastructure including road access, drainage, utilities and transport links. Rebuilding schools on their existing campuses in phases while the school remains operational is a common approach used across the UK. This system was successfully used for Lenzie Moss School, now Lenzie Meadow. Why cannot it be used for Lenzie Academy?

6. Community consultation responses

Previous consultation responses recorded significant concern from residents about building the school on Whitegates Park and the permanent loss of a large area of public green space. I believe it is also the home to a large bat population.

7. National Planning Framework 4 policy

Scotland's National Planning Framework 4 (Policy 21 – Play, Recreation and Sport) states that development which results in the loss of public open space such as parks should only be approved if the planning authority can demonstrate that the space is no longer required or that an equivalent or better replacement will be provided. This space is required, it is used by local residents, and wildlife. We need green spaces, both for people and for nature.

8. Risk of losing two community assets

If the school is built at Whitegates Park, the community risks losing both the public park and the current Myrtle Avenue school site if that land is later sold or redeveloped.

Based on these facts, a logical alternative would be to rebuild Lenzie Academy on its existing Myrtle Avenue campus rather than permanently removing Whitegates Park from public use.

As I mentioned at the head of this email, I STRONGLY OBJECT TO RELOCATING LENZIE ACADEMY TO THE WHITEGATES GREEN SPACE.

