

Comments for Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

Application Summary

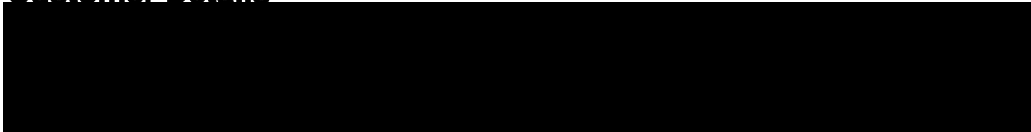
Application Number: TP/ED/26/0104

Address: Whitegates Park Middlemuir Road Lenzie East Dunbartonshire

Proposal: Erection of a secondary school including road access, landscaping, car parking, sports pitches, recreational areas and associated development.

Case Officer: Fraser McNair

Customer Details



Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I formally support the application for the new Lenzie Academy at Whitegates (TP/ED/26/0104). My support is based on the following material considerations:

1. Protecting Vulnerable Pupils and Stability

As a parent of an autistic child with noise sensory challenges, I am deeply concerned about a "tandem build." My son would attend the Academy during peak construction; for a neurodivergent pupil, four years of heavy machinery noise is a significant barrier to education. This generation has already faced unprecedented setbacks; research cited by the Scottish Government estimates lifetime earnings losses of £40,000 per pupil due to pandemic closures. Notably, those closures were for a significantly shorter period than the proposed four-year tandem build. A stable, purpose-built environment at Whitegates is essential.

2. Community Safety and Transport Access

The current site is at the centre of a 500m radius containing Lenzie Meadow, Holy Family schools and nurseries. A tandem build would concentrate years of heavy industrial traffic into this sensitive zone for very young children. Crucially, the Whitegates site moves school bus traffic away from residential side streets and onto a dedicated access road from the Initiative Road roundabout. This separation of heavy transport from residential foot traffic is a major safety improvement for the hundreds of primary-aged pedestrians who currently navigate the congested Myrtle Avenue area.

3. Environmental Remediation and Net Gain

This project provides £4.8m to address historical contamination at Whitegates. Leaving the site as it is offers no guarantee against future environmental leaching or gas migration. Furthermore, the formal commitment to transform the existing site into new parkland ensures no net loss of community space. Trading a contaminated field for a modern Academy and a brand-new park is a clear community benefit. The long-term safety and educational gains far outweigh the temporary loss of this land.