

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 08/12/2025 3:43 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land Adjacent To Longfield Road Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0EW
Proposal:	Outline application for the erection of up to 120 residential dwellings, public open space and associated works. Approval is sought for the principal means of vehicular access from Longfield Road and all other matters are reserved.
Case Officer:	Mrs Alison Webster

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Meopham

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	Dear, Following the recent information shared regarding the planning of Site B and the proposal for 120 new-build houses located directly adjacent to The Helen Allison School, I understand that construction work could commence in the summer of 2028 and may continue for approximately three years.
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As you may be aware, the Helen Allison School is an independent institution and part of the National Autistic Society. All of our pupils have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and a formal diagnosis of Autism, with many presenting a range of additional and complex needs. The majority of our pupils travel to the school via Local Authority transportation.

Concerns

- Impact on Learning and Well-being: Our pupils have significant sensory needs, and the anticipated noise, visual disruption, odors, and dust generated by the construction work could adversely affect their learning and emotional well-being. Our pupils are autistic and their response to the noise you would traditionally associate with building works on that scale and proximity to our school would create an intolerable level of noise that could have serious impact on their safety, wellbeing and learning.

- Traffic Congestion: The road leading to the school is already heavily used. We currently accommodate pupils from eight different Local Authorities, most of whom arrive by taxi for an 8:50 a.m. start and depart at 3:00 p.m. Extended and disrupted journeys have a very significant impact on the learning and wellbeing of our pupils who will arrive dysregulated and less able to learn as a result. This needs to be considered in light of the 3 other large scale projects proposed in Meopham and the cumulative impact on congestion.
- Parking: Many of our staff members park along the main road, which may be further impacted by increased traffic and no longer being able to park their due to the building work.
- Distraction to Learning: The proximity of the building site may cause considerable distraction for pupils.
- Safeguarding: The visibility of pupils from the construction site raises safeguarding concerns.

Suggestions

- Relocate the proposed green space (currently indicated for drainage) adjacent to the school to create a buffer zone, which would help mitigate sensory impacts.
- Restrict construction vehicle movements during school opening and closing times.
- Require construction vehicles to access the site from the opposite direction to avoid passing the school entrance.
- Ensure vehicles operating on-site use minimal or silent reversing alarms.
- Install a boundary screen incorporating sound-reducing materials to limit visual and auditory disruption.

Opportunities for Collaboration

- We appreciate the offer of a small car park for staff use.
- Could there be opportunities for some of our pupils to undertake work experience as part of the project?
- As independent living skills are a key developmental area for our pupils, might there be scope to use a property on-site to teach basic home living skills in a real-life environment?
- Consideration of a play area incorporating sensory equipment would be highly beneficial.
- We currently lack sufficient space for sensory equipment; could we explore options to create sensory spaces or additional buildings for school use?
- Is there potential for the school to purchase a portion of the land to develop an upper school provision?

We are keen to work collaboratively to ensure that the development proceeds in a way that minimizes disruption and maximizes opportunities for our pupils.



