

**Whitechurch National School**  
**Whitechurch Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Ireland**

*Scoil Náisiúnta an Teampaill Ghill, Bóthar Teampaill Ghill, Ráth Fearnáin, BÁC 16.*

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*School Roll Number:* 11638N

*Registered Charity Number:* 20119645



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*Acting Chairperson*  
*Rev. Canon A. Galligan*

*Principal*  
*Ms. Sarah Richards*

*Deputy Principal*  
*Ms. Judy Brown*

24<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

**Re: Proposed SHD at Whitechurch Road (Kilmashogue House and Coill Avon House)**  
**Edmondstown SHD**

To whom it may concern,

I write to you to make some observations on the proposed SHD at the above addresses. Our school is located very near to the proposed development on Whitechurch Road and we must at all times ensure that we do our best to safeguard teaching and learning along with the health and safety of our pupils, staff and other members of the school community.

- We acknowledge the need for increased and affordable housing in the area and do not object in principle to any developments as long as they are of the correct scale and take into account the local traffic situations, the work and safety of our school. We would gladly work with developers to ensure that work is carried out in a responsible and considerate way.
- We are concerned at the size of this proposed development on what is essentially a rural country road. We already experience very significant traffic and road safety issues as it is and would fear that with increased traffic, the risks would only become more serious.
- Could any planning please take into account the need for better pedestrian footpaths along the road? Could safe traffic crossing points be included in any plans? The road is narrow and there is only one narrow footpath on one side. This needs to change if the road is to take any more housing and particularly a planned development of this proposed size. South Dublin County Council have repeatedly turned down applications for a Traffic Warden as we do not have, what they deem to be, access to a safe crossing point ie. a path to cross on both sides. Presumably children living at the proposed SHD would need safe pedestrian access to our school so can this be ensured as part of the development plan?
- Foul water pipes and drainage are proposed in the plan. Could the school be considered for connection to this as part of that work? We are on a septic treatment plant and cannot build an ASD Special Needs Unit as a result of lack of available space. If our septic treatment seepage area was no longer needed, we would be able to build our ASD Special Needs Unit.
- While any building work is taking place, what would the effects on the operation of the school be? We simply cannot have the road closed off or made unsafe for pedestrians. Many of our children live locally and walk or cycle to school. Their safety is paramount.
- The local river, The River Glynn runs alongside Whitechurch Road and runs through the proposed development and into the school grounds. This river needs to be protected

as a local habitat area. Protection is also needed for the trees on the banks. These trees have well established root systems that hold the bank material together. If removed, there could be serious impact on the river and further downstream at our school.

We would ask that you take into consideration the above points and ensure that the plans for the proposed SHD ensure that our school community members are protected.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Richards

Principal