

Home address:

Councillor Alex Sawyer
London Borough of Bexley
Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7AT
Email: alex.sawyer@bexley.gov.uk

Date:

Dear Councillor Sawyer

Traffic chaos around Old Bexley Primary School

I am writing to protest and register my dissatisfaction in the way Bexley Council has failed to deal with the traffic chaos in the roads surrounding Old Bexley Primary School since the school expansion. I also protest at the resultant traffic pollution caused by those who sit with their vehicle engines idling, and the fact that Bexley Council has declined to ticket offenders or to adopt any initiatives to deal with this offence.

I understand a Travel Plan is currently the subject of a planning application on Bexley Council's planning portal. It does not include any provision for off-street parking for vehicles of parents dropping off and collecting children from the school. This, despite suggestions by local residents at the time of the planning consultation process to utilise the unused capacity at Bexley station and offers by the cricket club and athletics club. Also, at the time of the original planning application, traffic consultants prepared a report which recognised there would be a significant increase in car journeys and that this would result in extended periods of parking stress in the area. During peak times, other local authorities have imposed parking exclusion zones to ensure the safety of pupils and free movement of traffic.

The off-street parking capacity in the immediate vicinity of the school with its circa 800 pupils (which will rise to circa 850) is insufficient to deal with the huge increase in vehicle journeys to the school. I therefore demand that Bexley Council inform new parents in their offer letter that there is no provision for school parking and that they should either walk to school or use public transport. Also that the Council take effective action to control parking in the area during peak drop off and pick up times during the school terms and provide off-street parking or drop-off zones for those who need to drive to school. The on-street parking at these times has the effect of causing traffic chaos. I also demand that Bexley Council consults with residents on initiatives to deal with the offence of idling engines.

I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours sincerely

Signed :

Name: