

Cathedral School

of St. Saviour & St. Mary Overy



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21st November 2018.

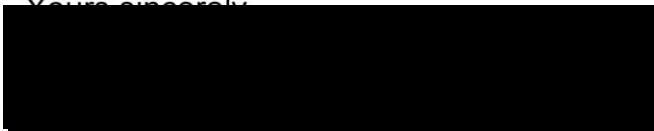
Southwark Licensing Team:

I am writing to oppose application *Licensing Register - Applications for Premises Licences, Club Registrations, and Reviews Details for Licence Number: 865532*

Our reasons for opposing the application are set out below

- There will be a high possibility of rowdy behaviour which can lead to criminal acts in an area which already suffers from a level of drinking/drugs related incidents
- We believe that our school could be at greater risk of damage from anti-social behaviour than it is currently.
- Although we are a Primary School, our staff work late into the evening, on consultation with them, they have raised safety issues surrounding leaving school late and encountering more people who have consumed alcohol
- Our pupils use the Marlborough Playground after school; there are young pupils (aged 5-11) in the playground every day from 3.15-5pm. The majority of our pupils have no outside space at all to play in at home, we believe that, granting this license will curtail the little chance of free play that they currently have.

Yours sincerely



Mr Stephen Scott
Acting Headteacher





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 Headteacher Mr F O'Kane

18th November 2016

To whom it may concern,

Representation against license application 865532 - Trading name and address: Marlborough Sports Garden, 27 Union Street, SE1 1SD - Applicant Name: Bankside Open Spaces Trust

We are writing on behalf of the governing body of Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School to lodge a representation against the license application detailed above.

We are strongly opposed to this application on the four objectives as outlined in the Licensing Act 2003:

1. *The protection of children from harm*
2. *Ensuring public safety*
3. *The prevention of nuisance*
4. *The prevention of crime and disorder*

Our school is situated directly adjacent to the Marlborough Sports Garden and indeed, we share a boundary wall. The Sports Garden site has direct access through a gate onto a pathway which is used daily by families from both Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School and The Cathedral School of St Mary Ovarie for entry and exit of both school premises.

The protection of children from harm and ensuring public safety

We are a primary school with 235 children from the ages of 3-11 years which is open in term time for approximately 190 days a year. Our site is busy with children and staff from 7.30am to 7pm (frequently later with meetings, events etc.). Therefore, this is patently the most pressing objective for us.

We are extremely concerned that with members of the public potentially consuming alcohol from 11am onwards, there is a genuine risk that they could endanger our children by entering our premises without permission while intoxicated.

We have on occasions, had patrons of the Marlborough Sports Garden scale our seven metre tall boundary wall and fence to gain access to our site, including our roof, in order to retrieve errant footballs. Patrons have also gained access through our gate (when open for deliveries etc.) in order to try and locate footballs.

The consumption of alcohol throughout the entire day on the proposed site poses a clear and present risk of patrons becoming verbally abusive or indeed physically aggressive with children and families entering or leaving school at any point during the school day. As a school with safeguarding of children's welfare at its heart, we will not support anything that undermines their safety.

We also have a duty of care to our approximately fifty staff. Before entry to or exit from the site they remain members of the public. As such, they have the right to expect and should be afforded unmolested passage into or leaving their place of work. This is also true for the frequent visitors that we welcome on a daily basis.

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The prevention of nuisance

The school has been an educational setting for over fifty years and is a place of learning. If the licence were to be granted, this would mean potentially large numbers of people drinking alcohol within direct earshot of our classrooms, in particular our Early Years Setting, where we have up to fifty-five 3 and 4 year olds spending large portions of the day in their outside area. Not just in summer season, but all year round, our classrooms need to be ventilated with windows open.

With the consumption of alcohol, comes increased volume from patrons and the potential for profane language. We are concerned about the increased distraction students may face with large numbers of adult voices during the school day which includes morning playtime, lunchtime playtime, afternoon playtime and of course PE sessions. Children simply cannot be exposed to profanity on a daily basis.

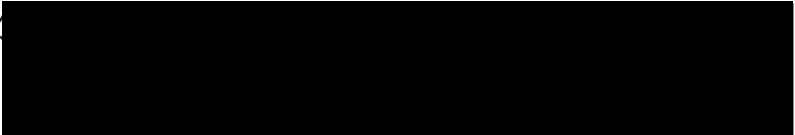
Furthermore, this application includes live and recorded music entertainment, performance of dance, films and plays indoors and outdoors. The potential high levels of noise that would emanate from the site would undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on children's ability to focus and concentrate on their learning. Our teachers are also often on school premises until 7pm planning and preparing and this too will generate nuisance and not afford them the opportunity and right to reasonable noise levels in their workspace. Additionally, we have a premises officer that lives on the school site. All of the points outlined above directly affect them too, arguably more so because they inhabit their accommodation throughout the weekend.


Prevention of crime and disorder

With the increased consumption of alcohol there may be a greater risk of disorder and crime. There is a considerable body of research that has examined the relationship between the consumption of alcohol, licensed premises and crime (particularly violent crime). We are, already, currently contending with the sale and consumption of Class A drugs in Little Dorrit Park which sits opposite our main entrance. Consequently, if the application were to be approved, we may be exposed to antisocial behaviour on two counts.

In conclusion, we are very concerned about the potentially damaging consequences for our children and the school community at large if this licence application is granted. The Marlborough Sports Garden operated by Bankside was created as a recreational space promoting sports and healthy living for the local residents and workers. We strongly believe that the licensing application sits firmly against the very ethos of the shared public garden and does not adequately take into consideration the rights, safety and wellbeing of all their neighbours – in this case primary school children.

Yours faithfully,


Mr Andrew Hurley
Chair of the School's Governing Body


Mr Francis O'Kane
Headteacher