

Monday 6 January 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

Cemex Appeal – Proposed Quarry on Hamble Airfield

We are writing to you regarding the proposed Quarry on Hamble Airfield. As I am sure you are aware we objected to the plan to build a quarry next to the school last year and in May 2024 the proposal was rejected by Hampshire County Council. We have attached the original letter written by the students (and students of Hamble Primary School) so that you can see some of the concerns raised by the young people in the community.

The application was refused by Hampshire County Council due to the concerns of increased congestion on Hamble Lane, the flood risk and the issue of air quality.

Before Christmas we were made aware that Cemex have appealed the planning application and the decision on the future of the airfield will now be made by an Inspector at an inquiry due to take place on 1 and 2 April 2025. Since the refusal by Hampshire County Council, Cemex have responded to the original proposal with the following changes:

1. They will reduce the number of HGVs from the original plan of 144 per day to 127 per day.
2. Due to the reduction in HGVs per day the length of time the quarry will now run is in excess of 15 years.

Why did we originally object to proposal?

- We have concerns about the safety of students walking or cycling to/ from school. Cemex will allow a significant number of HGV and additional vehicle movements at school peak times along Hamble Lane. This will also impact on congestion and students and staff getting to school on time.
- The only space we can use for examinations (including the final GCSEs) is adjacent to the proposed site, therefore, the additional noise will cause significant disruption for students and impact on their outcomes. This will also be a concern in classrooms across the school throughout the year.

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- The school is a very open site and therefore the air pollution will impact on the health of students when they move between lessons, during outdoor PE and at break/ lunchtime.
- As a school we are fully staffed, however, we know that there is a national recruitment and retention crisis in education. A quarry next to the school will mean it will become increasingly difficult to retain and recruit good staff as the impact of the quarry will have a detrimental impact on working conditions.
- In the 15 years (which is now likely to be longer) the proposed quarry may be in operation, over 4,600 children will pass through the school; we forecast that around 30% of these students will have SEND needs and we know that increased noise can be a significant cause of stress, anxiety and Mental Health issues for some children.

What can you do?

We would encourage you to write to the Planning Inspector with your objection. Please respond in one of the following ways by **Monday 13 January 2025**:

- Online at: <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> enter case number of 3355894. Click in the 'Make representation' tab
- Email: john.legg@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
- Postal address: John Legg – Inquiries & Major Casework, The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN

All communication must include name address and the Planning Inspectorate reference number: APP/Q1770/W/24/3355894

If you represent a business or organisation please make sure you fully identify yourself on all correspondence with either logos from your organisation or at least naming the business you represent.

For your reference the Cemex Appeal documents can be found on the Hampshire County Council website, under the appeal tab:

<https://planning.hants.gov.uk/Planning/Display/HCC/2021/0787#undefined>

The Hamble Residents Group and Hamble Parish Council have joined together for the inquiry and the Inspector has granted them Rule 6 status which means they will defend the community using a legal team. The group have employed the services of a Solicitor and a Barrister and need to fundraise for the cost of this; if you would like to contribute please visit the fundraising page here: <https://gofund.me/51358c92>

What will we be doing in school?

We know that last year the students were keen to get involved in the campaign against the quarry as this is a significant local issue which impacts on them today and in the future. It is also an important part of British Values and PSHCRE. We will be talking to students about this and explaining the appeals process during Personal Development; this will include the pros and cons of a Quarry next to the school. Students will then be invited to make their own decisions.

We anticipate that the Inspector will visit the site on several occasions and we will not necessarily know when he is coming. We will therefore be putting up banners once again

around school site. If we do find out when the Inspector is visiting we will conduct a student protest as we did earlier on in the year. The decision on this is likely to be last minute due to the delay in information we are obtaining, therefore, if you are happy for your child to take part in a protest, please give consent here: <https://forms.office.com/e/AKTdR7n41F>

If you would like to object, please do so using the information above by **Monday 13 January** and raise any concerns you may have for your family. If we receive any further information, we will of course update you accordingly.

Yours faithfully



Miss L Cambridge
Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.