

**From:**  
**To:** [Future Merton](#)  
**Subject:** Merton Draft Plan Response - Singlegate Primary School  
**Date:** 12 March 2024 13:31:52  
**Attachments:** [Merton Draft Local Plan Singlegate Primary School 12th March 2024.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon,

Please see the attached letter in response to the Merton Draft Plan.

Kind regards,

PA to the Chief Executive Headteacher

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Mrs. N Bull  
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Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## **London Borough of Merton Draft Local Plan: Modifications recommended following the Examination in Public**

### **SUBMISSION BY SINGLEGATE SCHOOL**

Singlegate Primary School is a three form of entry Primary School with over 600 pupils, serving the local community of Colliers Wood. We are grateful for this opportunity to comment on the proposed modifications to the draft Local Plan arising from the Planning Inspectors Examination in Public.

We are confining our comments to the proposed amendment to the site brief for CW2, the car park adjacent to Britannia Point – specifically, Major Modifications MM39.

Major Modification MM39 removes the stipulation in the current Local Plan that

“the existing Britannia Point building should remaining the pinnacle in terms of height”.

### The importance of site CW2 to Colliers Wood

Because it falls within an Opportunity Area and has been designated as suitable for tall buildings, CW2 is the most important site in Collier’s Wood. The development of the site will affect the amenity of the Town Centre and the quality of life of those who live, work in and are educated around it for decades to come. For this reason, it is vital that the new Local Plan encourages development that enhances the character, amenity and environment of the town centre and protects against the blight that would accompany over-intensive development of the site. An explicit limit on the height of any new buildings is an obvious and unambiguous way to safeguard the quality of life in the town centre and surrounding neighbourhood.



## Loss of natural light

The school's main concern is about the loss of natural light. Colliers Wood is not a dense urban area. Britannia Point excepted, the townscape is predominantly low rise. The school is located extremely close to Britannia Point and site CW2. Any additional building on CW2 which was higher than Britannia Point would inevitably cast a significant shadow on the school and its playground areas. It would deprive many of the rooms in the school of daylight and sunlight. Natural light is essential in promoting healthy lifestyles and learning for children, especially at such a young age. Any development of the site should aim as far as possible to preserve the existing daylight and sunlight values of the town centre and surrounding area. A tower higher than Britannia Point would do completely the opposite.

Please take this into account in considering the Merton draft Local Plan.

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive Headteacher

Chair of Governors

