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Sent: 22 April 2026 14:57:46 UTC+01:00
To: "planninginfo" <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Consultee Comments for Planning Application
DM/26/0771

Consultee comments

Dear Sir/Madam,

A consultee has commented on a Planning Application. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 22/04/2026 2:57 PM from Oliver Benson on behalf of Environmental Protection.

Application Summary

Reference:	DM/26/0771
Address:	Hambrook School Marle Place 171 Leylands Road Burgess Hill West Sussex RH15 8HY
Proposal:	Installation of play equipment and timber framed summer house to the rear of the garden (Noise impact Assessment received 14.04.2026)
Case Officer:	Stefan Galyas

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Comments Details

The submitted Noise Impact Assessment relies on the provision of a 2 metre high close-boarded perimeter fence, assumed to provide approximately 8 dB attenuation at the nearest residential receptors. This fence is not proposed as part of the application and is therefore hypothetical. In its absence, the predicted noise levels from the play area would increase accordingly.

Comments: On the basis of the assessment calculations, removal of the fence would result in play area noise levels at the nearest residential receptors of approximately 9 dB above the measured background noise level. An increase of this magnitude would be clearly perceptible and would represent a material change to the existing noise environment experienced by nearby residents.

While BS 4142 is not directly applicable to this development, as it

relates to industrial and commercial sound sources rather than educational play activities, it provides relevant contextual guidance. The standard indicates that noise levels around 5 dB above background are likely to lead to complaints, with increases of around 10 dB generally expected to result in significant adverse impact. In this context, a predicted increase of approximately 9 dB above background is considered a relevant and concerning factor.

Although the proposal may not result in a technical exceedance of specific guideline values for external residential amenity, the absence of the stated mitigation materially weakens the conclusions of the noise assessment. The predicted increase in noise levels would be acoustically significant and would increase the likelihood of adverse impacts on residential amenity.

For this reason, provision of the 2 metre acoustic fence is considered necessary and preferable in order to reduce audibility of the activity and ensure that noise impacts at neighbouring residential properties are adequately mitigated.

Kind regards