

About the application

Application number: 2025/91308	
What is the application for?:	Removal of condition 37 (number of students and staff) on previous permission 20
Address of the site or building:	Greenhead College, Greenhead Road, Huddersfield, HD1 4ES
Postcode:	HD1 4ES

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
<p>If this application were successful, it would represent an increase of around 20% in student/staff numbers compared to existing levels. Despite a commitment within the Travel Plan to "...reduce trips by high emissions modes of transport..." there is scant detail on how this will be achieved.</p> <p>The level of on-campus bike storage would be available to less than 2% of students and staff, whilst the apparent lack of showering facilities provides a further disincentive for cyclists.</p> <p>Despite a large proportion of the student population coming from local partnership feeder schools in Huddersfield (so presumably still residing in the area), the Travel Plan makes no commitment to offer a dedicated local bus services, which could provide a more environmentally-friendly alternative to the private car, whilst also easing congestion and parking challenges in the immediate area.</p> <p>Based on the information provided in this application, the stance of Greenhead College seems to be that existing public transport provision is sufficient, whilst the on-street parking by their students has no more local impact than by commuters or visitors to Greenhead Park. This is not the case.</p> <p>The evaluation of on-street parking around the college is misleading, with inspections conducted at different times of the day between one survey and another. Additionally, by completing the term-time survey in October, when not many Year 12 students will be aged 17 and able to drive, gives a false comparison of the typical level of term-time student parking.</p> <p>The volumes of students travelling by car increases through the school year as more pass their driving tests, peaking in May before tailing off thereafter as the Year 13 cohort finish exams and no longer attend site. This is apparent today (4th June) as these areas are now only 50% full of cars.</p> <p>I have lived in the area for 15 years, students (identified by lanyards) always parked</p>	

Having lived in the area for 15 years, students (identified by lanyards) always parked on Gledholt Road. However, there has been a significant increase in the volume of cars during term-time in the past couple of years, with Quarry Road, Grasmere Road and Heaton Road are now 99% full, from around 08.45 until at least 14.00. Vehicles are often wedged at the end of junctions and occasionally blocking driveways, representing a danger to other road users, a hazard to pedestrians and an inconvenience for residents.

The Travel Plan implies a two-thirds reduction by September 2026 in students travelling to college by private car - or about 50% fewer than today, allowing for the growth in overall numbers. However, without viable public transport alternatives, park and ride schemes and/or dedicated car parking being provided, I fear the situation for residents is unlikely to improve.

How many more increases in numbers can Greenhead College sustain, operating from a single site? Have other locations been considered, as there must be plenty of vacant real estate in the town centre or the remaining portion of the former Kirklees college site on Trinity Street? Could the Springwood or Bus Station car parks be allocated for Greenhead students' use?