

Statement provided by the Joint Executive Headteacher Pegasus Academy Trust representing her personal views and those of the staff affected.

I am Lynne Sampson, Joint Executive Headteacher of The Pegasus Academy Trust. I share responsibility for the leadership and management of Cypress Primary School, Whitehorse Manor Infant School, Whitehorse Manor Junior School, Ecclesbourne Primary School and Beulah Infant School. I am writing, following comments made by Mark Averill at the online meeting on Monday 11th January. I have been contacted by some staff who were concerned that Mr Averill suggested no-one from the leadership team had responded to the on-line LTN consultation and in fact the one statement received could not be verified as true. During the consultation, I submitted a response through this email address as had staff, including the Heads, from other schools in our Trust. I am writing therefore to express concern that our responses seem not to have been considered and would like to reiterate the following.

1. The personal and professional lives of a significant number of staff working within The Pegasus Academy Trust have been greatly impacted by the closure of roads which are crucial for our work with over 2000 pupils in South Norwood and Thornton Heath.
2. Some staff are now seeking work elsewhere as they cannot manage the extended journey to and from work and when needing to travel between schools as we often need to do.
3. The impact of the road closures on staff wellbeing is enormous. The added journey times as well as the difficulties face in travelling between schools is causing stress and really impacting on the quality of education we are able to provide.
4. From a personal point of view my journey to Cypress Primary from Beckenham used to take seven-ten minutes. It now takes 25-40 minutes. I can no longer access Lancaster Road so cannot approach the school from there. I have to travel along the A213 where I can sit for up to 25 minutes in stationary traffic.
5. If I travel instead from Auckland Road the installation of the bus gate means I cannot access Cypress Road. Sometimes I park and walk to the school but have so much to carry I have to make several journeys thus making my start to the work day very laborious. I now leave half an hour earlier each morning but still arrive much later for work.
6. On December 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 I had to make three journeys from my car to the school to bring in packages, books and my own paperwork. I was doing this while trying to speak to the Heads at Ecclesbourne and Beulah Infants who needed immediate advice following positive COVID results at their school. It was extremely stressful.
7. Staff work across schools and need to travel easily and quickly from site to site. They can no longer do this. Cypress staff are particularly disadvantaged as staff from other schools who would come to offer support or attend training no longer want the challenge of the journey. I have had to appeal PCNS for teachers who have mistakenly driven through the bus gate or up Cypress Road not having registered their cars.
8. A teacher at Whitehorse Manor was called to her children's nursery as her children had fallen ill. The nursery is in Lewisham. It took her an hour and a half to reach the nursery by which time the children were extremely distressed and obviously she was as well.

9. A teacher at Whitehorse Manor has to visit her elderly parents at their care home in Streatham. The road closures mean that the round trip from her house in Bromley to school and then to the care home takes up to three hours extra per day.
10. I do not believe ANPR will improve the situation as the main problem which is inaccessibility to roads and large queues of stationary traffic will not be reduced. For the mental wellbeing of staff and to enable our schools to run effectively the only possible solution is to remove the traffic boulders particularly in Holmesdale Road and Lancaster Road.