

Joint Statement from Local School Leaders on the Proposed Location of the New Frimley Park Hospital

October 2026

Local school leaders fully support the urgent need to replace the RAAC-affected buildings at Frimley Park Hospital and welcome investment in modern healthcare infrastructure for our region. A new hospital is essential, and we recognise the significant benefits it will bring to patients, staff and local communities.

However, we remain opposed to the proposed location at the Frimley Fuel Allotments site. Our position is not opposition to a new hospital. Rather, it reflects our continuing concern that significant questions relating to child safety, transport infrastructure, school access and community impact remain unresolved.

Our overriding concern is the safety and wellbeing of children. Collectively, we represent more than 36 schools and over 13,000 pupils, with thousands of children travelling daily on roads directly surrounding the proposed site. These routes are already heavily congested during school arrival and departure times and are key walking and cycling routes for local families. We continue to seek reassurance about how children will travel safely to and from school during a lengthy construction period and following the opening of a major regional hospital. At present, we do not believe sufficient evidence has been presented to provide that confidence.

We are also concerned that schools have only recently been involved in discussions, despite being among the organisations most directly affected by the proposal.

Schools have **statutory safeguarding responsibilities** and bring valuable expertise regarding the needs of children, families and local communities. We believe those perspectives should have informed the process from a much earlier stage.

We welcomed the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Trust and remain committed to engaging constructively. **However, we are disappointed that public statements have suggested there has been close collaboration with school leaders when this has not reflected our experience.** While discussions have taken place, our concerns remain substantially unchanged, and we do not feel that the weight of evidence provided by schools has yet been fully reflected in the process.

We note that further traffic surveys are being undertaken over the coming months and welcome the collection of additional evidence. However, we are questioning whether the findings will have a meaningful impact on the final decision when the Fuel Allotments site has already been identified as the preferred option. It is important that the community can be confident that evidence gathered through consultation and technical assessment is capable of informing and, where necessary, changing the outcome.

We are equally concerned that alternative locations do not appear to be receiving the same level of consideration. Indeed, we have been asked whether we can identify alternative sites ourselves. While we are not responsible for site selection, this

inevitably raises questions about whether all viable options have been fully explored and assessed. A consultation process should demonstrate clearly that alternatives have been rigorously evaluated before a preferred site is confirmed.

We are concerned that the Fuel Allotments site has been viewed as the likely destination for a new hospital for several years. Whether perception or reality, this has contributed to a growing belief that the consultation is validating a preferred outcome rather than determining the best option for the community. For a project of this significance, maintaining public confidence in the process is essential.

The strength of our community has always been its willingness to work together. We want a world-class hospital that serves future generations, but we also want a process that is transparent, evidence-led and responsive to the views of those most affected. At present, we do not feel their concerns have been adequately addressed, and confidence in the process is being weakened.

We have also written to local elected representatives to raise our concerns on behalf of the children, families and schools we serve. We are grateful to our local Member of Parliament and several colleagues who have engaged with us and recognised the importance of the issues being raised. However, we are disappointed that a number of other elected representatives have not responded or engaged with our concerns. Given the potential impact of this proposal on thousands of local children, we believe these issues warrant consideration from all those elected to represent our communities.

We therefore wish to be absolutely clear:

We support the urgent delivery of a new Frimley Park Hospital.

We do not support the Frimley Fuel Allotments site.

Our opposition is based on unresolved concerns regarding child safety, safeguarding, school access, transport infrastructure, community wellbeing and the apparent lack of transparent consideration of alternative locations.

Until there is clear and independently verified evidence that children can travel safely to and from school, that local infrastructure can accommodate a development of this scale, that consultation evidence can genuinely influence the final decision, and that all viable alternative sites have been properly evaluated, we will continue to oppose the proposed location.

The safety of children must remain the primary consideration in any decision affecting thousands of young people and families for generations to come. A new hospital is urgently needed, but it should be delivered in a way that protects children, maintains public confidence and demonstrates that the community's voice has genuinely shaped the decision-making process.

This joint statement has been agreed by the following school leaders:

Trust/ School	Name	Role
Engage Enrich Excel Academies	David Harris Stephen Norton	CEO Chair of Trustees
Ravenscote Junior School	Amy Wells	Headteacher
The Alliance Multi Academy Trust (TAMAT)	Jon Hills	CEO
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School	Alison Walsh Rebecca Clark	Headteacher Chair of Governors
Xavier Catholic Education Trust	James Kibble	CEO
Heather Ridge Infant School	Sarah Elliott-Hammond	Headteacher
Tomlinscote Secondary School	Mat Venton Hedvig Moutsatsos	Headteacher Chair of Governors
Frimley Junior School	Clare Wright	Headteacher
Carwarden House Community School	Alex Ewen	Headteacher & Trustees
LSEAT	Mark Bryant	Director of Surrey and Sussex Specialist Schools
Kings International College	Jo Luhmann	Headteacher
Bourne Education Trust	Alex Russell	CEO
South Camberley Nursery and Primary	Nicky Wright	Executive Headteacher
Holy Trinity CE Primary School	Liz Ambrose	Headteacher
The Kite Academy Trust	Jeremy Meek	CEO on behalf of Sandringham Infant School, Cross Farm Infant School, The Grove Primary School, Lakeside Primary School and Mytchett Primary School and all Kite Schools
Portesbery School	Nathan Aspinall	Headteacher
Prior Heath Infant School	Lindsey Chivers	Headteacher
Cordwalles Junior School	Abi Moore	Headteacher
St Lawrence C of E School	Late Chenery	Headteacher
Pine Ridge and Lorraine Infant Schools and Nurseries	Karen Ney	Headteacher
Bisley C of E Primary School	Clare McConnell	Headteacher

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