



Clients statement for

Proposed use of land for turning area and drop off point

1. Firstly the land is part of our building and we pay rent for it. We have never and do not intend to charge a parking fee or threaten to clamp anyone.

2. In the event of an accident we need access to the front doors of the nursery for any emergency attendees be it ambulance or fire, if we don't have access and there is an emergency they would have to carry any emergency equipment needed, this time delay could impact beyond measure, on both our children and our staff.

3. From a safety point of view, a child arriving to nursery would have to park on the rock at the top of Crompton street, providing they can get a space, then they would have to walk down Crompton street where we have HGV's delivering to the pound shop and trying to do a turn in a cul-de-sac, the lorry's take up to 10 minutes to turn their vehicles around. There are a number of deliveries throughout the day, the HGV's literally stop traffic and create a danger on Crompton Street for anyone, let alone children walking down the street.

4. The same as 2 applies with taxis picking up fares and drivers dropping off and picking up passengers.

5. Currently the nursery has been opened only 10 weeks and in this time we have already registered 60 children and employed 15 members of staff, if we are not allowed to park there is a good chance that parents may decide to move their children to a nursery with parking, and although we have never advertised as having parking and we try to deter people from parking there we find it difficult to stop parents who are parking there because it's safer for their children. If parents remove their children we would have to dismiss staff as there would be no job for them.

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6. From an economic point of view, parents coming from out of town to use the nursery or the crèche at weekends brings in new business, people who don't usually shop in Bury are choosing to because we have created a facility that makes it easier for them to shop at leisure in Bury, these parents don't want to be walking their children through town, they want the safety of driving to the door.

7. Before we opened Go Wild, the building was derelict and unusable; being closed for 17 years we've brought a much valued facility to Bury Town Centre, at considerable cost to ourselves, which lots of families love. We were recently voted no.1 for being the best party venue for children. We put children's welfare at the very core of everything we do, the kids are our number 1 priority. We have been advised that there is a shortage of good quality childcare in our area so we intend to provide the very best for our children and parents providing much needed funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

8. Before we opened there were alcoholics, drug users and smokers outside of our building, they used to regularly set fire to the plastic bins, throw rubbish everywhere, use foul language and cause no end of problems. Since go wild opened and with hard work and persistence, determination and regularly reporting them to the police we have changed the mentality of those individuals, now we've forced them out of the area and our visible presence has deterred them from returning. Should we have to close due to parents taking their children out of town were parking is ample, I have no doubt that the problems will return.

9. Bury councils website has the CAS (child assessment survey) available for anyone to read, it states that there is a need for good quality childcare in our area plus there is a shortage of 2 year funded places available, we provide both but will be at risk of closing without parking facilities.

10. For the past 3 years every October Bury light night organisers have parked on the land while they set their stage up, speakers and musical equipment etc. I also have classes being run by outside agencies who also have to bring equipment in, in particular two music classes that have to bring 3/4 suitcases of equipment, she wouldn't be able to do the class if she couldn't access for parking.

As a final note we looked at many properties outside of the town centre, many with their own car parks, and we would ask Bury planning officers if we would be able to get planning permission for a change of use, we were told on every occasion that we could not run our business in an industrial unit due to the employment regeneration and that businesses were being encouraged to come to town centres. I would also like to add that since we were refused you have granted planning permission to another play centre even though they didn't and still haven't met the criteria. The nature of the play centre is far better suited to an industrial unit due to the size of the equipment etc, but we took your direction and accepted that our business would never grow at the same rate as other play centres due to the limitations of the building. With this in mind we've now adapted the other parts of the building into a nursery and creche, when we have full capacity we will be creating around 47 new jobs that wouldn't have been available, 15 of which have already been taken.