

List of Petition(s) to be presented at Cabinet - 7 September 2026

(1) Opposition to installation of perimeter fencing College Green Open Space

**Lead Petitioner – James Hogan – Chair College Green Preservation Society
(petition contains 80 signatures)**

Statement:

We the undersigned local residents petition Brent Council to stop College Green Nursery School NW10 3PY erecting a screen, living wall or any structure on the perimeter fence of College Green, the open space at the top of College Road, Kensal Rise, which would block any view of the open space enjoyed by local residents for the last hundred years and would completely destroy the pleasant character of the area. Such a screen would also create a major road safety hazard at a very busy junction. The open space has been used by the 28th Willesden Scout Group for 60 years from 1967 and is a vital part of the character of the area. The College Green Preservation Society founded in 1988 has over four decades preserved College Green as an open space. In 1995 we proposed that Doyle Nursery School on College Road should move to College Green in order to protect the open space. The open space is used by the scouts and the nursery and has never been part of the nursery's property. It is an important part of the community and should not be hidden from view by any screen, living wall or any other structure.

There is also an All Souls College Covenant which is part of the deeds of the surrounding houses, which legally protects the householders' rights, stating that the above mentioned land cannot be used for "any purpose which shall or may be or grow to be in any way a nuisance, damage, grievance or annoyance to the Vendors or their assigns or the lessees or tenants of any part or parts of the Estates of the Vendors in the neighbourhood or which may tend to depreciate or lessen the value of the aforesaid estates of the Vendors or any part or parts thereof as residential property."

College Green Nursery School have already erected an additional fence across the open field, which is having a negative effect on Scout activities. The open field is not and never has been part of the nursery school property. If the nursery school want to screen their property that is up to them but they have no right to screen the open field, which does not belong to them and is an open space used by the Scouts, enjoyed by the local residents and is a vital aspect of the character of the area.

Local residents have over the last forty years stopped houses being built on the open space. The College Green Preservation Society, formed in 1988, proposed in 1995 that Doyle Nursery School move to College Green for the sole purpose of preserving the open space, which it did in 2004. It was agreed that the open space should be used by BOTH the Scouts and the nursery. If the screen goes up we will no longer be able to see the beautiful view across the field to the magnificent oak tree planted by the Scouts in 1967. It will be like living next to a builder's yard. The screen will also completely block the present sight-line, which allows drivers of lorries and cars to have a clear view from a distance of children, parents and other pedestrians as they approach and cross the junction of College Road and Leighton Gardens. This will create a major road safety hazard at a very busy junction. This proposed land-grab is

extremely concerning and is a betrayal of the trust and hope of the local residents over many decades that the open space and view would be preserved forever.