

Clovelly House School Planning Statement, 2023

Clovelly House School opened in October 2017. Prior to this, I had been granted planning permission for a 'three bed children's home with a school' on site. We opened the home for three children.

I registered the school with OFSTED, but later increased the numbers of the school to ten with OFSTED. I was not aware that the school was also limited to three places until later as, in mainstream schools, the schools do not have to apply for planning permission each time the number on role changes.

The school has been developed and is functioning. Ten vulnerable special needs children attend the school and are doing well. There is no intention to increase the number of pupils on role as the site is suitable for a school of this number. In addition, the parking is sufficient for the staff numbers required for a school of ten children.

I am appealing to the council to grant this planning for the benefit of our children. These are hard-to-place children and suitable schools are very difficult to find for this cohort. The environment is therapeutic and the school gardens and buildings have been designed to cater for sensory needs. The school is non-discriminatory and accessible as all buildings are on the ground floor and the school has a disabled toilet. To lose this school would have life-changing consequences for these children who have been let down by the system consistently since first attending school.

I am happy to show anyone around to evidence the good work of the school.

Jennifer Collighan