

## McDonalds Proposal

Parrs Wood High School and the GMLT would like to support the local community in their opposition for the proposal of a McDonald's store in the grounds of the Tesco Didsbury store.

We would oppose the opening for a number of reasons:

1. Having a new hot food store open within 400m of a school is a breach of the planning policy 3 ([Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document March 2017](#)- this was adopted by the Manchester City Council in March 2017.) We have over 2000 students on roll and the walking distance from Parrs Wood to McDonalds is well below the recommended 5minutes. Unfortunately, this distraction could also encourage punctuality issues with our students.
2. Having a fast food restaurant could inevitably lead to our students eating more processed food. Young people in Manchester already have higher than national obesity rates without the temptation of another fast food outlet. It would also concern us that the young people may congregate in the vicinity without adequate supervision.
3. The increased traffic that would inevitably come to the store is a real cause for concern. The junction is already extremely busy and many of our students cross the busy A34 (Kingsway) and the other associated branching roads, including Didsbury Road. The increase in traffic could increase the risk to our students crossing the road.
4. In addition, the current traffic congestion at the local Parrs Wood Complex is already an issue. It regularly takes many of my staff and parents over an hour to leave the carpark due to the traffic on the A34. The McDonalds store will only increase the volume of cars and this would disrupt school events. This could be a breach of the Manchester Policy 2 regrading Highway Safety and Existing Traffic conditions  
[Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document March 2017](#)

We believe McDonalds has a real civic and moral responsibility as a global business to respond to the needs of the local community, in fact one of its core focus areas is to be a leader in the local community and therefore aim to 'help make the world a better place'. By building this store in the proposed location, McDonald's is not making the world a better place as is it is contrary to the wishes of the local community and schools that service it.

The planning application number is 118206/FO/2017.

[www.manchester.gov.uk/info/200074/planning\\_permission](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/200074/planning_permission)

**The deadline is 7th February 2018**

Mark McElwee

Headteacher