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**Sent:** 21/01/2021 10:50:41 AM  
**Subject:** DA 2020/1758 Objection Letter

DA2020/1758  
11 Lewis Street, Balgowlah Heights, NSW, 2093

**Objection to Long Day Care Development Proposal**

Dear Kent Bull,

I am writing this letter in objection to the development proposed for a long day care centre at 11 Lewis Street, Balgowlah Heights, NSW, 2093. As a teacher and concerned aunt of young children on the street, objections for this development primarily have to do with the safety and welfare of many, including: residents of the street, school staff and children of Balgowlah Heights Public School (BHPS), parents/ carers of these children, as well as the staff, children, and parents/carers of the proposed long day care itself. They are as follows:

1. The proposed long day care shares the only access road with the BHPS Upper Primary campus, presenting problems with traffic congestion which will impact all students/ staff/ residents, as well as individual associated with the long day care.  
With the addition of cars that this long day care would inevitably bring, road traffic on this already congested street would increase substantially, endangering all individuals mentioned above.
2. Increased congestion on this already busy street will lead to increased traffic accidents, putting all individuals' welfare at risk.
3. Having this increased number of cars on Lewis Street, whose drivers are likely unaware of the habits/ needs/ personalities of BHPS students, will place extra burden on the already high duty of care that school staff and roads and maritime service school crossing attendants need to uphold.
4. The few car spaces that are located on either side of Lewis Street that aren't designated kiss and drop areas are required by school parents/ carers, school staff and street residents at various times of the day. Furthermore, parents/carers who do drop their kids at the gate require these 'kiss and drop' spaces and can't afford to have them congested by other long day care parents, who would likely need to park the car there for a significant amount of time in order to drop off/ collect their small children. Congestion here may not only result in children being late to school, but impact on all aspects of the school day and may also impact on a school child's/ long day care infants' safety.
5. This increasing traffic and use of the driveway that is proposed for the long day care centre will impact on both local families who live on the north end of Lewis Street and BHPS students and their families that use this pathway heavily not only directly before and after school, but also outside school hours due to the popular Outside School Hours Care program at the school.

The driveway proposed for the centre is located on the sole footpath that provides pedestrian access to the school, and an increased volume of cars entering and exiting the driveway poses a high risk to families/ children being struck by vehicles coming to/ leaving the long day care centre. Furthermore, even if children are aware of cars using this driveway, many of the students often ride bicycles and scooters along the pathway, making a collision more likely due to children/ cars being startled and unable to stop in time.

6. By increasing the density of children in the area, particularly young infants, who are less able than school children to follow directions in the event of an emergency (e.g. a bushfire) would impede the evacuation procedures of the area, as there is only one street that the Upper Primary students, school staff, long day care infants and long day care staff can use.

Additional reasons for my objections are as follows:

7. The remainder of Lewis Street, outside BHPS grounds, is a residential area that provides a safe and caring community for both local families and BHPS students. A childcare centre of these proportions in this residential area will produce noise pollution, privacy and waste management issues for residents of the street.

8. I believe that there is already sufficient child minding and day care facilities in the area that currently have not reached capacity, thus not only would this proposed long day care centre take business away from these local businesses, but it is an unnecessary resource.

Yours Sincerely,

**Osha-Ann Rudduck**

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