

Thursday 20th March 2025

Closure of Beech Hall Nursery

Dear Mr. Leatherbarrow,

We are writing to express our strong concerns and disappointment regarding the abrupt decision to close Beech Hall Nursery in Macclesfield.

This decision has been made without consultation, transparency, or due consideration of the severe impact it will have on children, families, and the dedicated nursery staff.

Beech Hall School has long prided itself on the breadth of opportunities it offers to its students. However, in choosing to close the nursery, it is failing its youngest members and disregarding the needs of families who have placed their trust in the school. This decision also has significant implications for the dedicated nursery staff, many of whom will face limited local recruitment options and employment uncertainty.

The nursery has recently been given an outstanding rating and is highly respected in the local community. The staff are exceptional, and our children have all thrived since attending. It seems unfathomable that such a well-established and highly regarded nursery with excellent reports would be closed.

There appears to have been no consideration of alternative plans that would allow Beech Hall Nursery to remain open. Furthermore, parents were not consulted about this significant decision that affects our children's wellbeing.

This decision demonstrates a clear lack of awareness of the early years sector in the area and a complete failure to conduct due diligence regarding the impact on affected families. Collectively, we have been informed that almost all local nurseries are fully subscribed until 2026, leaving families with no viable alternatives. The closure of Beech Hall Nursery without securing adequate childcare solutions for the children it serves is both irresponsible and deeply distressing for those who rely on it.

While Beech Hall's website proudly declares it is 'a family school with pupils at its centre' that 'works in close partnership with parents,' this sudden nursery closure without consultation exposes these as empty words. Your actions regarding your youngest pupils directly contradict your promise to 'give every child the best start in life' and reveal where your true priorities lie. Such blatant disregard for children's wellbeing, will inevitably damage the school's reputation and finances as our families, wider networks, and wider community reconsider Beech Hall for future education needs.

We, the undersigned parents of Beech Hall Nursery, request that you halt the plans to close Beech Hall Nursery until a full consultation with all stakeholders can take place.

Sincerely,

The Parents of Beech Hall Nursery

CC: Outcomes First Group Leadership, Beech Hall School Leadership and Governors, Tim Roca
Member of Parliament for Macclesfield, Media Outlets, and Other Interested Parties