

Theodore

I have been at Heathfield Knoll School since the summer of 2021.

When I first came onto the site, I was leading up to the school for the first time and having to stop in our car. There were a few wide-eyed

at us was a Muntjac Deer. It was at this point that I knew that this was the right school for me. Our main school complex is surrounded by greenbelt, wood

meadow area and due to this we have a considerable amount of biodiversity. This biodiversity project shows our commitment to our environmental agenda. It's not just Muntjacs, but Foxes, Tawny Owls

Since joining the school, we have, as part of a regime put into place by the school's Eco Committee, set up a remote

camera on site with which we can monitor our wildlife, and our what

It doesn't seem immediately obvious that these nocturnal mammals and birds were not present all the time, not because they are nocturnal, but

because they are sensitive to noise. There seems to be no rhyme nor

reason as to when the foxes decide to amble by our remote camera, but

during break time, when all the pupils are enjoying themselves outside

(often letting out a fair bit of noise), the foxes, badgers and muntjac alike

cease to appear. As soon as it is lesson time, the wonderful fauna that

occupies our site pluck up the courage to venture out of their hides once more.

Clearly noise, even in its smallest quantities, has a negative impact on the wildlife around us. Imagine the impact a quarry would have!

Students young and old come to our school from miles around, not just

to make the most of the education we offer, but to enjoy our idyllic

location. The industry of the quarry would lead to noise pollution and air pollution, damaging our ground and making us less able to use the

wonderful natural resources that we have available to us, not to mention

the impact on the environment for which our school is

prized.

These are some of the main factors in what attract people to our school, It is our unique selling point, which in a

market is crucial to our long term survival. When small

schools are closed, is facing VAT & National Insurance

charges, can Heathfield Knoll School ride out a quarry at its doorstep

as well? Just the perception of having a quarry next door to a school that

is itself as a tranquil, environmentally focused  
education could be a unique proposition. The door to  
look around. I have friends that come in from as far afield as  
Cheltenham. They have the choice to go elsewhere, but our unique  
environment and small class size offering makes them feel safe and  
accordingly. Would they make that first drive to us to look  
around in person or saying the school is in a beautiful environment as they  
open google maps and see there is a quarry over the road?

~~We would like to invite you to visit~~  
we would like to invite you to visit  
our school when you are in the area,  
so that ~~we can~~ you can experience  
a wonderful environment for  
you.