



Why Wincheap Orchards Matter to Our School

As Headteacher of Wincheap Foundation Primary School, I'm writing to share why the proposed development of Wincheap Orchards concerns me deeply – not just as an educator, but as someone who sees every day how vital green spaces are for our children.

What the orchards mean to our children:

Time in green spaces like this helps children's mental health, reduces stress, and gives them space to play and be children.

In an increasingly built-up area, losing trees and green spaces to make way for 2,000 houses would take away something our children can't get back.

Why this matters:

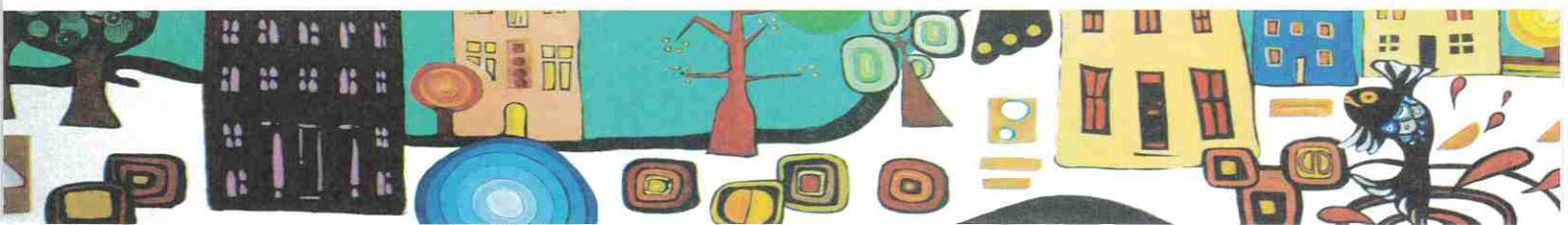
- **Our children need green space** – research shows that access to nature improves wellbeing, concentration and physical health
- **The orchards are irreplaceable** – once they're gone, they're gone forever
- **Our community deserves to be heard** – decisions like this affect our children's futures, and we need time to make our voices count

I'm not against development, but I am against losing something so precious without proper consideration of what it means for our children and our community.

Mrs N Dawson

Headteacher

Wincheap Foundation Primary School





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FOUNDATION
PRIMARY
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Dear folks,

I am here to tell you not to put concrete in the orchard. First the recreation ground, now the orchards. You are taking away a beautiful space which is a free, fun area for everyone. Everyone has made memories over the years in this orchard. Taking away this place will destroy those memories. The people who will come here will think that Canterbury has no green spaces and that will be true if you take away the orchards. This free place is where people can get fresh air and get away from the pollution around them. But if there are houses there then the cars will come in and people won't have a place to get away from it all. The orchard is an area to learn about agriculture and how to learn to keep things safe, but it won't be safe if you cut all the fruits and vegetables down and put houses there. This does not send a good message to kids who come here to pick apples and have fun. They will not appreciate nature when they grow up.

Year 5 Pupils

Wincheap school

