

To,

The Planning Office

Wokingham Borough Council,

Wokingham

Subject: Planning permission for the change of use

Reference: 10 Thorney Close, Lower Early, Reading RG6 3AF

Dear sir/ madam

10 Thorney Close (RG6 3AF)- Planning permission for the change of use of the land from a residential to a mixed use of residential and commercial for a dance lesson business.

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you with a heartfelt request that holds immense significance for my family and our community. With this correspondence, we formally submit an application for the property owner to occasionally use the premises for dance lessons.

Background:

We seek permission for the use of this property to also be used for dance lessons on some occasions. These dance lessons are Indian Classical Dance classes. These dance lessons are more than just an activity; they are a vital conduit for fostering culture and a sense of community.

This dance form is a profound expression of our cultural heritage. It serves as a bridge connecting generations promoting cultural understanding, and instilling a sense of pride and belonging in our community. Through these lessons, young people and adults benefit physically and mentally, gaining a deeper appreciation of their culture and heritage. We aim to create a space where individuals can connect with their roots, celebrate their identity, and build a community united by shared cultural experiences.

Additionally, we often perform at charitable events, which not only supports worthy causes but also instils a sense of social responsibility and empathy in the participants. These experiences provide students with invaluable life skills, including teamwork, discipline, and public speaking, while also fostering a strong sense of community engagement and pride. By using our home as a practice space, we can effectively prepare for these important events, ensuring that our contributions are both meaningful and impactful.

Furthermore, the dance teacher, Piyali, is self-employed, and the income generated from these classes is vital to her family's financial stability. Piyali has worked hard to build this dance community. These classes represent not only her passion but also her primary means of livelihood. By allowing her to continue teaching from home, you

would be supporting a local entrepreneur who has made a significant cultural contribution to our community.

We would like to address some of the potential key concerns.

- 1) Parking: Our personal driveway accommodates three cars without obstructing any neighbouring vehicles. Most parents drop off and pick up their children, avoiding parking in the vicinity. We encourage students to walk to the property after being dropped off further away to prevent congestion.
- 2) Sound: The dance classes take place in an extension that does not connect to any other buildings. The property's left-hand side and back are completely open, minimizing sound travel to nearby structures. Music is played at a low volume from an iPhone 4, ensuring it does not cause any disturbance. Additionally, no classes or activities occur during night hours (11 PM to 7 AM) in compliance with The Noise Act 1996.
- 3) Class dates and times: We would like to clarify the dates and times of the classes.
 - a. Tuesday morning (9:30am-10:30am) – 4 adults
 - b. Tuesday morning (10:45am-11:45am) – 4 adults
 - c. Tuesday evening (7:00pm – 8:00pm) - 4 adults
 - d. Thursday evening (5:00pm – 6:00pm) – 4 adults
 - e. Thursday evening (6:15pm – 7:15pm) – 4 teenagers
 - f. Friday morning (9:30am - 10:30pm) – 4 adults

In conclusion, we humbly request your support and permission to convert the residential home into a dual-purpose space for both living and teaching classical Indian dance. We are committed to ensuring that the dance lessons are conducted respectfully and harmoniously within the community.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this further and address any concerns you may have.