

98 Grosvenor Road
Lindfield NSW 2070

19 October 2019

**Re: State Significant Development - International Chinese School SSD-10260
Major Projects,
Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment, NSW Government,**

I write to express my support for the International Chinese School proposed relocation to 211 Pacific Highway St Leonard's.

We are a young working family with two children. Both my husband and I are engineers, I work for a top tier engineering consultant in the CBD, my husband works for a small engineering business in Western Sydney. We have lived on the North Shore for over 10 years and chose this area due to family ties, the leafy nature of the area and for the quality of schooling options available. We have two children; our son is due to start with International Chinese School (ICS) in Kindergarten next year and we intend to send our daughter when she reaches school age in 2023.

We have chosen to send our children to ICS primarily for the bilingual opportunity that it affords our children. We have no Chinese heritage, but we believe that a mandarin bilingual education will not only open opportunities for our children throughout their lives, but it will also help them to develop an understanding of Chinese culture and tolerance and interest in cultures other than their own. With China's relentless economic growth and increased participation and influence on a global scale we believe that opportunities such as those offered by ICS will help to prepare our children, and our nation, for the future.

The proposed site at 211 Pacific Highway is a terrific site for the school. As a parent that works in the CBD I plan to utilise the ample public transport available to deliver my child to and from school and to travel into the CBD. The proposed site is uniquely located to allow me to do this. Additionally, the site is located close to public parklands that I understand could be utilised by the school on occasion. I see this as a great use of the new playground and oval space which is likely to be underutilised by the public during school hours. I believe the parkland has ample capacity to accommodate the children from the school as well as the general public. The proximity of the Gore Hill Cemetery also provides additional greenery close to the site, which although it will not be directly used by the school it will provide a pleasant and healthy environment.

I understand that the site is within an area identified as an educational precinct. The establishment of Sydney's first mandarin bilingual school on the site would seem to align perfectly with this strategic plan.

I urge the Department to approve the ICS proposal as soon as possible to allow works to be completed in time for the 2020 school year.

Yours Sincerely,



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