



BANBURY HOCKEY CLUB

Mr P Sanderson
Bloxham School
Bloxham
Oxon
OX15 4PE

28th January 2018

Dear Mr Sanderson

RE: Floodlight at Bloxham School

The prospect of floodlight at the Bloxham School pitches is very exciting and would make a significant benefit to the school, the local community and Banbury Hockey Club.

As you are aware the Banbury Hockey Club hires the Dewy Sport Facilities most Saturdays throughout the season for league games for both junior and senior games. Banbury Hockey Club also hosts two festivals at the school for all the local Oxfordshire clubs - the Banbury Hockey Club Junior Festival and the England Hockey In2Hockey Competition.

The BHC festival is in December, which as you can imagine is both cold and at that time of the year, the light is at a premium, with play being restricted to 15:30. The festival currently caters for approx. 400 players but with floodlights it would enable the event to have greater flexibility:

- to start later e.g. should the pitch be subjected to frost and still keep to the festival schedule (previously we've had to "squeeze" the festival due to light),
- to invite more clubs from other neighbouring counties to join us or perhaps increase the age range of the children that can attend (currently U8-U12, but could be expanded to include U14-U18)

The introduction of floodlights would also enhance the playing experience on match days, particularly on those dark days in winter, both from a player perspective but also from an officiating perspective too. Hockey is a high paced game and player safety is paramount and therefore floodlights are essential in the modern game.

I trust the application will be successful and if you require any further support from me or the club please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards

Adrian Simons
Head of Junior Hockey
Banbury Hockey Club