

## **Statement Sibella Chauveau**

My name is Sibella Chauveau, I am 13 years old and I live in Wellow.

I attended the village primary school there called St. Julian's. The school doesn't have the space for sports facilities for its students. I did not play a lot of sport there.

I am now at secondary, Hayesfield Girls School, where we have PE just once a week. School team sports are only for the better players and they happen after school which would mean committing my parents to driving back and forth to Bath and beyond.

I use the playing field in Wellow a little. There are a few boys I know who live next to the playing field and sometimes my sister and I play football with them. The game doesn't last that long because the field is too big, there are not enough players, the boys are competitive and they don't pass the ball a lot to us girls.

We played tennis with the same set of boys when my dad set up a mini tennis net last summer on the playing field. That was much more fun because our abilities were more evenly matched and there are no hard tackles on a tennis court.

There is a small play area next to the playing field which is fine for little children. I've only seen teenagers there drink and write rude words on the equipment.

Parents are always complaining that children spend too much time on computer games and social media but they are inexpensive and easily accessible. Sporting facilities should be just as easily available. I think this would encourage children to step away from electronic devices and into the outside world.

The world seems to be worried about our fitness levels but I don't see how that can improve until it is easier for us to be active and have fun. The 10-15 year olds in Wellow handed in a petition in support of putting sporting facilities on the playing field. I know the younger ones are also keen because when they saw us playing mini tennis they ran off to get their rackets.

Please help us with this. It would make a huge difference to our life because we would have more sport options that we could walk or cycle to and so we would play more often. It would help us become fitter young adults. It would also give us the chance to have actual experiences and conversations, instead of virtual ones, and not just with our own age group but with grown ups as well.

We appreciate your time in considering this. Thank you very much.