Landscape Maintenance Plan

for Trinity Academy, Barnsley

FS0954-ALA-00-XX-R-L-0002

07/12/2023

Landscape Management Plan

This document has been prepared by Ares Landscape Architects to define the long term management and maintenance requirements for the planting areas associated with Trinity Academy, Barnsley.

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Prepared by: NW
Checked by:LA

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Figure 1: Whole Site Masterplan

Introduction
The purpose of the Maintenance Schedule is to guide the establishment and maintenance of the landscape works for a period of a year following completion as well as to provide a basic framework and standard for maintenance beyond that year. To achieve this, the document sets out specific proposals for maintenance tasks which will help achieve the Long term design objectives listed below.

Long term design objective
- Create an attractive environment for learning which is sympathetic to the character of the existing setting and architectural context,
- Provide a safe and secure external space,
- Provide an easily maintained and managed landscape.
- Successful establishment of all planting.

Site Area
The area to be managed is indicated on the following drawing:
- FS0954-ALA-XX-ZZ-DR-L-0001-Illustrative Masterplan 1 of 2
- FS0954-ALA-XX-ZZ-DR-L-0002-Illustrative Masterplan 2 of 2

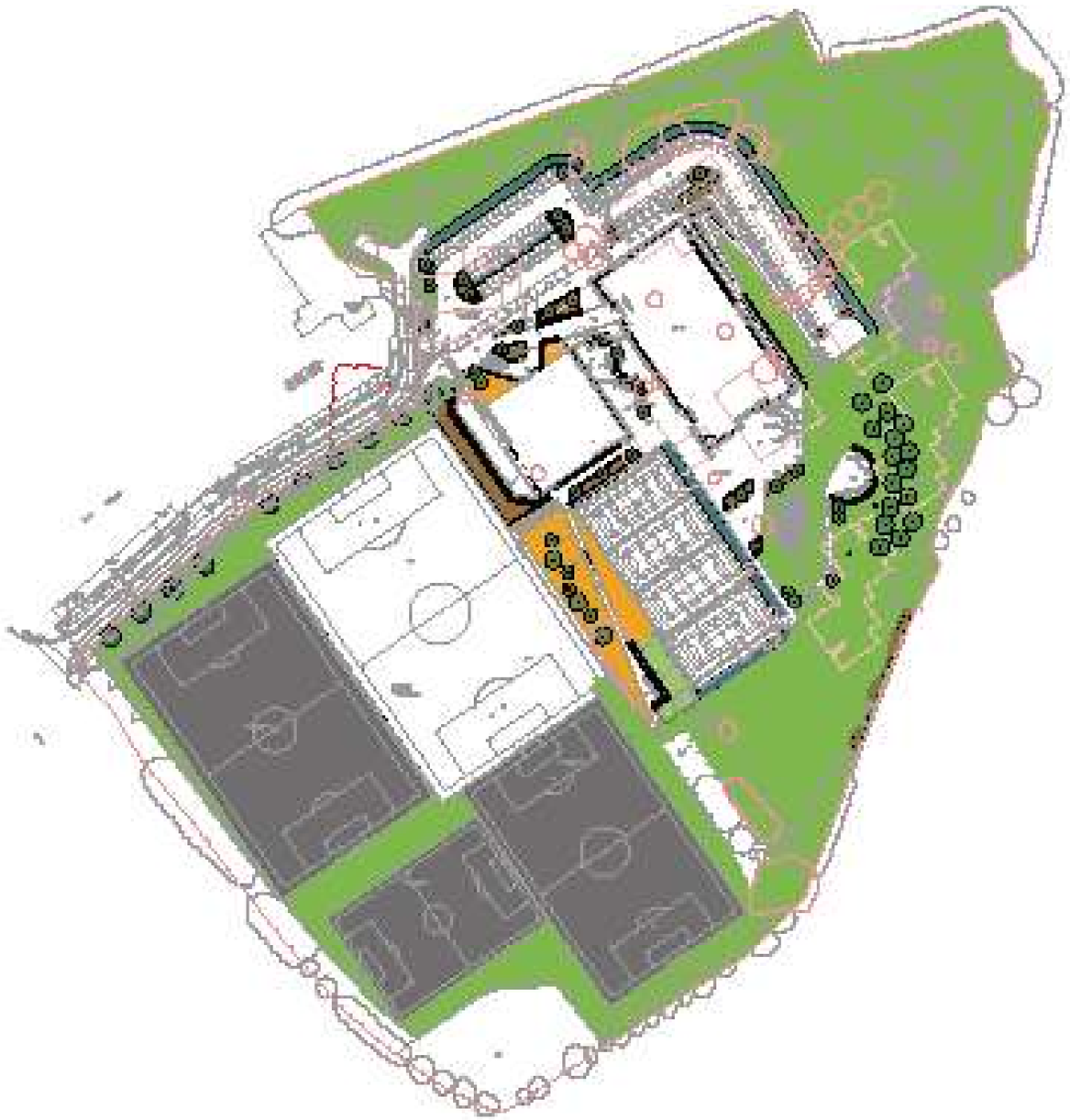
In addition this management plan should be read in conjunction with the following drawings and specification:

- FS0954-ALA-XX--ZZ-DR-L-0030-Planting Plan & Schedule 1 of 2
- FS0954-ALA-XX--ZZ-DR-L-0031-Planting Plan & Schedule 2 of 2

Management Responsibilities
The delivery of the management operations as outlined in this plan will be the responsibility of Trinity Academy, although It is understood that on completion of the works the contractor will be responsible for the maintenance of the planting during the defects liability period in line with the operations set out in this document

The following schedule of maintenance operation tasks are identified as either ***Routine*** maintenance including regular (assumed weekly) site inspections and monitoring and ***Responsive*** maintenance activities which need to be implemented on an 'as required' basis in response to specific site events.

Restrictions
Use of mechanical equipment is not permitted outside the hours of 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 7am to 1pm Saturday.



The development of the planting character types identified below is central to achieving the Landscape Objectives:

Shrubs, herbaceous planting & grasses
Shrubs, herbaceous planting & grasses is to provide a pleasant, attractive environment for pedestrians and commuters, with blocks of visual interest around the development and screening car parking areas.

Swales + Ponds
The swales are intended to provide visual amenity and be of ecological value within the site. The practical function of the swale network is to treat surface water runoff from developed and landscaped areas of the new development.

Amenity grassland
Amenity grassland will provide areas for informal recreation and allow for views over the campus and the surrounding countryside to be retained.

Tree planting
The combination of grasses and shrubs together with advanced nursery stock trees strategically positioned in groups and individual solitaires, forms a complex layering of vegetation typically found within the natural landscapes surrounding the site and local area. They also help to screen long views across the site.

Wildflower/Species rich grassland
Meadow grassland will provide areas with greater species diversity and visual interest, with seasonal displays of colour.

Hedgerows
Hedges are used to frame the external spaces and to create calm and sheltered spaces.

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3.0 SCHEDULE OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS - PLANTING

GENERAL OPERATIONS

ITEM	OPERATION	TIMINGS												NOTES
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
Routine Maintenance Operations (Year1 -5)	**Mulch Coverings** -Top up all mulches (as required) to the depth specified in the NBS document.				1									
	Debris & Litter - Remove rubbish, debris and litter. Litter collection, areas should be regularly inspected and litter removed, especially after periods of strong wind and rain. Site to be in a clean and tidy condition.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
	Weed Control - All legally designated weeds shall be controlled. - Vegetation which supresses, inhibits the development of planted species and is incongruous with the planting scheme and / or the surrounding context shall be removed by hand - Treat all planting areas with a winter herbicide to control weed growth [Early Spring and Early Autumn]				1				1					
	Watering - Water all areas of grass, perennials, shrub and tree planting to ensure healthy development and survival.	AS NEEDED												Water regularly for 12 months during establishment
Responsive Maintenance Operation (Year 1 -5)	Plant replacements & pruning - Prune to remove dead, dying and diseased vegetation to promote healthy growth. All plant deaths should be replaced as soon as practical. Remove dead plants within one week and replace within 2 weeks with originally specified species at a size to match maturity of established planting or a soon as practical if the season does not allow for immediate planting.	AS NEEDED												Once a year
	Clearing of services - All plant material is to be keep clear of the following structural elements where present: Ventilation ducts and openings, drainage channels and gullies, service access points, CCTV cameras, fencing, gates and Light fittings	AS NEEDED												Once a year
	Compaction of planting areas – All areas of planting suffering compaction by pedestrian or vehicular movements area should be lightly forked over; Prick surface to a depth of 75mm, Reduce soil to crumbs and level off, Do not damage plant roots. All planting beds, should be lightly forked over to maintain health soil condition to a depth of 75mm	AS NEEDED												Once a year
	Soil Amelioration - Incorporate 50mm depth of composted green waste into top of soil to maintain soil quality. Apply as a top dressing and forking to a depth of 75m.	AS NEEDED												Once a year
	Wind / Storm repair – immediate inspections should be carried out after such event, work should be carried out to remediate and clean up.	AS NEEDED												

SHRUBS, HERBACEOUS PLANTING & GRASSES

ITEM	RELEVANT AREAS/TYPE	OPERATION	TIMING	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Pruning	Shrubs	Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well balanced natural appearance.	Autumn and spring	2 x per year	In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.
Herbaceous In general	**Planting beds**	Year three -Lift, divide and replant	March/ April	1 x per 3 years	
Herbaceous		Various subject to species type: trim seed heads and tidy, trim tattered leaves before flowers appear, Trim tattered leaves, cut to the ground etc	Autumn or Spring	1 x per year	
Mulching	**Planting beds**	Top up or renew mulch to a depth of at least 50mm	Spring or Autumn	1 x per year	
Weeding	**Planting beds**	Planting areas shall be kept free of grass and weed growth, and kept tidy by hand weeding	As necessary	1 x per 3months	
Litter	**Planting beds**	The branches should be checked regularly for plastic bags, especially after strong winds, and removed.	As necessary	Weekly	

3.0 SCHEDULE OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS - PLANTING

PONDS & SWALES

ITEM	RELEVANT AREAS/TYPE	OPERATION	TIMING	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Swale maintenance		Inspect grass along side slopes for erosion and formation of rills or gullies and correct. Inspect and correct erosion problems in the sand/soil bed of dry swales. Rototill or cultivate the surface of the sand/soil bed of dry swales if the swale does not draw down within 48 hours. Remove sediment build-up within the bottom of the swale once it has accumulated to 25% of the original design volume.		2 x per year during first year then 1 x per year As needed	Any obvious damage to planting or to the swales bottom soil bed should be repaired immediately. Repairs need to conform to original swale design. If selected plants for swale is not performing select and plant new species. For wet swales replant with a revised selection of wetland plants if current plants are establishing slowly or failing.
Replanting		Based on inspection, plant an alternative grass species if the original grass cover has not been successfully established. Replant wetland species if not sufficiently established.			
Mowing		Mow grass to maintain a height of 5-10cm			
Litter		The planting should be checked regularly for plastic bags, especially after strong winds, and removed.	**As necessary**	Weekly	

Amenity Grassland

ITEM	RELEVANT AREAS/ TYPE	OPERATION	TIMINGS	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Monitoring	All sown areas	Year one: - When grass is 30mm high cut back to 25mm - Scarify with lawn scarifier Years 2+ : -mow to 25mm high -Scarify with lawn scarifier	**Autumn** **End of February - End of August**	As necessary As necessary	Assumes spring sowing In the event of infestation of unwanted weeds i.e. docks, thistles, bristly ox tongue etc. Spot spray with Roundup or similar in late April/ early May Note: Scarifying mimics the action of pasturing animals. Seeded embankments may require periodic re-seeding.
Grass cutting	Amenity Grass	Objectives: To BS 7370-3, table 6. Mowing methods: To BS 7370-3, table 3.	To BS 7370-3, clause 11.		Standard: To BS 7370-3
Fertiliser	All amenity grassland areas	Apply organic fertilizer at recommended rate	Spring and Autum	Twice a year	This is required in the early years due to the very low nutrient status of the existing restored soils.
Litter	All grassland areas	Grassland areas should be checked regularly for plastic bags, especially after strong winds, and removed	As necessary	Weekly	

Tree Planting

ITEM	RELEVANT AREAS/ TYPE	OPERATION	TIMINGS	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Trees	All new trees	Year one inspection: -Cut back broken/diseased branches -Check for general health Years three to five inspection: -Cut back broken/diseased branches -Check for general health -Stakes to be replaced where necessary	 **August - February** **August - February**	**2 x per year** **1 x per year** **As necessary**	**Removal of remaining stakes and shelters subject to monitoring at end of year 4**
Watering	Newly planted trees	Water regularly for first 12 months after planting.		**As necessary**	
Litter	All trees in public areas	The branches should be checked regularly for plastic bags, especially after strong winds, and removed.	**As necessary**	**Monthly**	
Replacement	All trees in public areas	Replace as necessary.	**November - March**	**As necessary**	
Weeding	Newly planted trees	A circle 500mm radius from the base of each tree shall be kept free of grass and weed growth.		**As necessary**	
Arboricultural report	All Trees	It is recommended that all site trees are inspected by a qualified Arboriculturalist, and a recommendation report obtained every 5 years, to identify any health problems and arboricultural work requirements.	**August**	**Year 5+**	

3.0 SCHEDULE OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS - PLANTING

Wildflower/Species rich grassland

ITEM	SUB CATEGORY	OPERATION	TIMING	NOTES
Species rich seed mixes	**All sown areas**	YEAR ONE: - When grass is 75mm high cut back to 25mm - repeat 2 more times - After flowering mow and remove arisings - Scarify with lawn scarifier	Spring End of August	Assumes spring sowing In the event of infestation of unwanted weeds i.e. docks, thistles, bristly ox tongue etc. Spot spray with Roundup or similar in late April/ early May Note: Scarifying mimics the action of pasturing animals.
		YEAR 2 TO 5: -mow to 25mm high -After flowering mow and remove arisings -Scarify with lawn scarifier	End of Februrary End of August	Seeded embankments may require periodic re-seeding.

Hedgerows

ITEM	SUB CATEGORY	OPERATION	TIMING	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Cutting	**All hedged areas**	Trim to specified heights Remove diseased, damaged, congested and crossing shoots (1.2m is absolute minimum height at which hedges can be cut)	Autumn and spring	2 x per year	New hedges will first be cut six years after planting and then every three years; existing hedges will be cut on a three-year rotation.
Thinning	**All hedged areas**	Thinning out a third to a fourth of the oldest branches	Autumn and spring	3-5 year basis	
Monitoring	**All hedged areas**	Monitor species hedgerow quality and species composition	Autumn and spring	1 x per year for first 5 years then every 3 years	
Litter	**Planting beds**	The branches should be checked regularly for plastic bags, especially after strong winds, and removed.	As necessary	Weekly	

Natural Turf for Pitches

Item	Relevant areas/type	Operation	Timing	Frequency	Notes
Pitch preparation	Winter sports areas	Harrow surface	Apr/July/ Aug	3 x a year	
Repair and fix pitch	Winter sports areas	Rolling and spiking	Aug-Mar	fortnightly	
Mark out pitch	Winter sports areas	Burn in with weed killer	Aug	1 x per year	
Pitch preparation	Winter sports areas	Erect and remove posts	Aug, Apr	As required	
Overmarking	Winter sports areas	Burn in with weed killer	Aug-Apr	weekly	
Grass cutting	all natural turf areas	mowing	All year round	As required	The height of cut should be kept at between 25-37mm all year round
Surface re-instatement and renovation	Winter sports areas	Contravating (seeding outfields)	Apr/May	1 x per year	
Surface re-instatement and renovation	Winter sports areas	Cultivating and seeding goal mouth areas	Apr/May	1 x per year	
Surface re-instatement and renovation	Winter sports areas	General repairs within and adjoining the sports area	Apr/May	1 x per year	
Marking out of summer sports	Summer sports areas	Burn in with weed killer	Apr	1 x per year	Required activities to be confirmed each season by school management sand would normally include sports such as running tracks, discus, rounders, javelin etc
Overmarking	Summer sports areas	Burn in with weed killer	Apr-Jul	weekly	
Fertilising	all natural turf areas	Apply suitable fertiliser to manufacturer's recommendations	Apr	1 x per year	

General Notes

• Consult Seed Supplier - Operations should be carried out in consultation with the seeding supplier, the actions identified above are provided for costing purposes and guidance. Generally, most new seeding should be carried out during early autumn i.e. September. However, as advised by the seeding suppliers, over seeding can work well whenever the soil temperature is favourable, the minimum soil temperature for germination is 10C with the optimum range being 16-22C, ideally the conditions would be when there is not an extreme extended warm period when additional irrigation would be required.

• Timing – Ideally all seeding work would be carried out during September, when the soil is still warm and precipitation is higher. This period may extend into early October [subject to weather conditions]. Any Weed Control & Fertilising should ideally be carried out during school holidays / weekends, allowing 48hours before school use. Areas sown in September / Early October will not be available to the School until early spring. Protective fencing should be maintained until then. Inspections should be carried out in November and March to check areas establishment. Timings indicated in the above schedule are based on best case, timing of seeding, fertilising etc should be carried out as per seeding supplier recommendations. The Contractor to submit a programme of works for approval.

• Stone / Rubbish Picking – Any surface stones/earth clods / surface vegetation matter exceeding a dimension of 20mm should be collected and removed from the site.
• General site preparation – ALL areas graded as required to ensure all mounds, depressions, ruts are removed. The contractors should carry out a final rake to a true, even surface, friable and lightly firmed but not over compacted. The purpose of the final 'rake' is to loosen seed bed surface and create 'strations' thus ensuring good contact is made between the soil and the seed.

Health & Safety

Certain cleaning methods described involve the use of chemicals. Therefore it is important that any safety warnings issued by the chemical suppliers should be carefully read and strictly adhered to at all time. In general the following precautions should be taken:
• Prior to maintenance/cleaning being undertaken a site specific risk assessment is to be carried out.
• Prior to any chemicals being used a COSHH assessment is to be undertaken.
• When using chemicals, protective clothing such as gloves, goggles, boots and overalls should be worn.
• Adequate ventilation is required when using chemicals in confined spaces.
• When using flammable materials i.e. cigarettes, naked flames and other sources of ignition should be carefully controlled.
• When diluting acids, ALWAYS add acid to water and not water to acid.
• Any clothing that is contaminated with chemicals should be disposed of safely.
• When using any chemicals, care must be taken not to damage, contaminate or stain any adjoining materials, landscaping or finishes.
• Care must be taken to protect personnel operating in the area of the cleaning from any injury or hazard created by the cleaning. The appropriate First Aid must be available on-site.
• Before undertaking any cleaning operation a trial should be carried out on a small, preferably inconspicuous area, to determine the effect of the chemicals before treating a large area.

Safe Access and Maintenance

• Prior to any maintenance activities on site all contractors must submit a detailed method statement to xxxxxxxx for approval.
• All method statements must be written in line with the school's own health and safety policy.