



St John the Baptist CE (VA) Primary School, Penistone
The School Governors c/o The Diocese of Sheffield

St Johns the Baptist CE (VA) Primary School,
82 High Street,
Penistone,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire,
S36 6BS

Phase 3 Infant School Site

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Design and Access Statement (D&AS_001)
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Design and Access Statement

	Page
1.0 Design Statement	
1.1 Introduction & Statement of Intent	3
1.2 Background, Site & Existing Buildings	3
1.3 The Design Process	4
1.4 Building Use	4
1.5 Layout	4
1.6 Appearance	4
1.7 Climate Change	5
2.0 Access Statement	
2.1 Statement of Intent	6
2.2 Sources	6
2.3 Access Routes	6
2.4 Entrances	6
2.5 Circulation	6
2.6 Elements	7
2.7 Management & Maintenance	7
2.8 Summary	7

1.00 Design Statement

1.1.0 Introduction & Statement of Intent

- 1.1.1 St John the Baptist CE (VA) Primary School intend to construct a new single storey ground floor extension to the existing Infant School to provide a new main entrance incorporating canopy and extended admin room. A new classroom extension is proposed adjacent to the main entrance to create a purpose built unit (including new Cloak Room, basic teaching space and pupil toilet facilities).

1.2.0 Background, Site & Existing Buildings

- 1.2.1 St Johns CE (VA) Primary School was created in 2012 through the amalgamation of the former voluntary controlled Infant School and the voluntary aided Junior School. Whilst occupying the same site the school comprises two independent blocks with the Infant Block accessed off Chapel Field Lane and the Junior School accessed off High Street.

The Infant School consists of two single storey blocks (Infants and Nursery). The Infant School was constructed approximately 1970's / 1980's in a traditional style and currently comprises a combination of brick and u-pvc cladding with a mixture of pitched concrete roofs and flat felted roofs throughout. The existing windows and doors consist of a mixture of double glazed u-PVC and aluminium framed windows and doors. Since the original building was constructed a further annex Nursery building (accessed via a covered walkway) has been added to the school circa 1980's to provide additional teaching accommodation.

The Junior School consists of a single and two storey block. The Junior School was constructed circa 1970's in a traditional style and currently comprises a combination of brick and u-pvc cladding with a mixture of pitched concrete roofs and flat felted roofs throughout. The existing windows and doors consist of a mixture of double glazed u-PVC and aluminium framed windows and doors.

The school sits in its own grounds within a residential area of Penistone. The Infant site is accessed via Chapel Field Lane which leads to a small car park. The Junior School is accessed via High Street.

The proposed classroom extension is located to the south west of the Infant School and is in a location that is currently a tarmac playground with grassed areas adjacent.

1.3.0 **The Design Process**

1.3.1

The submitted proposals reflect the school's requirements to address the existing undersized teaching space (including Cloaks and Toilets).

This will be achieved by constructing the new classroom housing new teaching space with shared resource area and Toilets / Cloaks and the Infill extension providing extended admin space.

The design process has involved development of a number of initial design proposals by The School Governors, The Diocese of Sheffield and Barnsley Council. These have been further refined and limited to the submitted scheme that reflect the aspirations of the school.

1.4.0 **Building Use**

1.4.1

The proposed classroom extension will provide the required resource and teaching support facilities for the school to deliver the current curriculum and to meet the needs of pupils attending the school. The new entrance will provide a clear, level and more welcoming entrance to the school building while providing safer access for pedestrians.

1.5.0 **Layout**

1.5.1

The new extensions will rationalise the existing teaching accommodation and provide a more accessible classroom, admin area and entrance integrated within the school building. The proposal includes creating new resource facilities in addition to cloakroom and Toilet provision for pupil use.

1.6.0 **Appearance**

1.6.1

It is the intention to use the new extension to cover existing hardstanding area of the school grounds located off the playground. The extension will involve loss of some grassed area, however, in context with the surroundings, the impact will be minimal. It is proposed that the new extension will complement and enhance the existing view of the school, highlighting the aspirations of the school to provide an attractive addition to the school building. The view of the Infant School from chapel field lane and the school carpark will also be improved with the addition of the new modern main entrance and classroom extensions.

The new extension will be constructed from brick (to match the existing school building) and glazing to provide a sympathetic addition to the school setting. New windows and doors are to be a mixture of double glazed uPVC framed and powder coated aluminium.

It is proposed that the main area of roof covered by the proposal is to be made up from a ply timber deck with liquid applied waterproofing warm flat roof. All new roofing is to be designed to disperse water into the existing drainage system on site.

In addition to providing new teaching accommodation, it has been identified that the school would also benefit from an additional admin area and a new main entrance.

1.7.0 **Climate Change**

1.7.1 The climate change PPS sets out how planning should help shape places with lower carbon emissions, resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable.

The extension will be constructed in full accordance with Part L of the Building Regulations: Conservation of Fuel and Power, to meet the minimum U-Values set out in relation to the floor, wall and roof construction as well as those for new windows and doors to provide the school with a compliant, well insulated extension with a lower heating demand than the existing building.

Internally, reduction of the schools energy consumption has been considered, providing energy efficient light fittings within the scope of works. The provision of natural light within internal areas has been considered through the design and installation of glazed windows.

2.0.0 Access Statement

2.1.0 Statement of Intent

2.1.1 St John the Baptist CE (VA) Primary School want to offer the best possible facilities as part of the development, to attract a diverse range of pupils and maximise the curriculum and community based activities on offer.

The client fully intends to comply with all current regulations and good practice. It is AHR' intention to assist them to ensure the proposals comply in line with local planning policy and the rationale of the DDA. The client have been actively involved in the design process and are charged with managing the day-day operation of the building which will employ trained staff with disability awareness, tying together a cohesive approach to disabled access.

2.2.0 Sources

2.2.1 The design team have worked closely with the consultants and drafted proposals which it feels now benefit as far as practical the inclusion of disabled people. AHR however welcome any continuing liaison from the planning application process.

2.3.0 Access routes

2.3.1 The existing vehicular and pedestrian access routes off Chapel Field Lane are to be retained. Access into the school building will be in the form of a new main entrance in place of the existing kitchen. The new classroom will be accessed via a shared Pupil Entrance.

2.4.0 Entrances

2.4.1 The existing main entrance into the school is to be retained but will have a change of use, now be used as an emergency exit. The new entrance with access doors and level access will be the main point of access and egress from the school. External access to the Classroom from the playground is to be provided via access doors providing level access into the school building. Minimum clear widths of new doors will be provided in accordance with guidance set out in Part M of The Building Regulations.

2.5.0 Circulation

2.5.1 Circulation within the building is to remain as existing excluding where the new main entrance is located. There will be a new reception area and corridor leading to the new admin space and remainder of the school where the existing kitchen was located.

2.6.0 Elements

2.6.1 All the materials chosen as part of the development will be selected so as to not provide a distraction or orientation difficulty to people with sensory disabilities.

In addition consideration will be given to the slip resistance and durability of surfaces for use by wheelchair users and those with limited mobility.

Samples of materials selected can be provided if necessary during the construction phase to ensure compliance with Building Regulations Approved Document M.

General improvements are to be made to the lighting within the building as part of the proposed development. Where these are too made they will fully meet the Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) Code for Lighting together with any specific more onerous requirements outline in BS8300.

2.7.0 Management and Maintenance

2.7.1 The management of disabled access within the building is understood to be an ongoing process which does not end when the building is in use. To support the day to day management of the building in operation robust policies will be put in place to support inclusion in accordance with the rationale of the DDA and SENDA 2001. Examples of such measures include carrying out regular building and users audits to identify obstructions, ensuring signs are regularly checked and updated and maintaining door furniture

2.8.0 Summary

2.8.1 Accessibility legislation with respect to educational buildings places a great deal of responsibility on those providing, running and maintaining the school. This design and access statement is intended to clarify the interpretation that the design team has placed on the design and access requirements in relation to planning issues.

Accessibility legislation makes it clear that reasonableness is a key ingredient in determining what is to be done in each circumstance. This strategy and statement embodies what is considered to be reasonable in terms of providing the necessary safety measures to the school.

As time passes, the interpretation of what is deemed reasonable changes and the access strategy will need to be reviewed in order to reflect this, together with any changes to legislation. However, in the current circumstances we consider that these proposals will provide a flexible, accessible, affordable, secure environment for all.