

**Forest Academy, Barnsley
Wellspring Academy Trust**

Forest Academy,
Thornton Road,
Barnsley,
South Yorkshire,
S70 3NG

Proposed extension and ground works

BC.HUD.2017.00236.001

Design and Access Statement
April 2017

Design and Access Statement

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1.0.0 DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

1.1.0 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Design and Access statement has been prepared by AHR Building Consultancy Ltd to accompany the application for Planning Permission for a proposed new classroom to accommodate additional pupil numbers within the school
- 1.1.2 The proposed new extension is intended to provide additional capacity to the existing building. To provide additional areas to work and a sufficient working environment for members of staff, pupils and visitors within the utilised area.
- 1.1.3 AHR Building Consultancy Ltd was approached to develop a proposal that would suit the school's needs while gaining Planning Approval.
- 1.1.4 The accompanying application drawings and documents are listed below:

Application Documents

- The planning application form duly completed
- Ownership certificates duly completed

Application Drawings

- Drawing no. PL01 – Site location plan as existing
- Drawing no. PL02 – Existing floor plan and elevations
- Drawing no. PL03 – Proposed floor plan and elevations

1.2.0 Forest Academy

- 1.2.1 Forest Academy, Barnsley is set back just off Thornton road behind a row of houses and adjacent to Springfield Learning Centre.

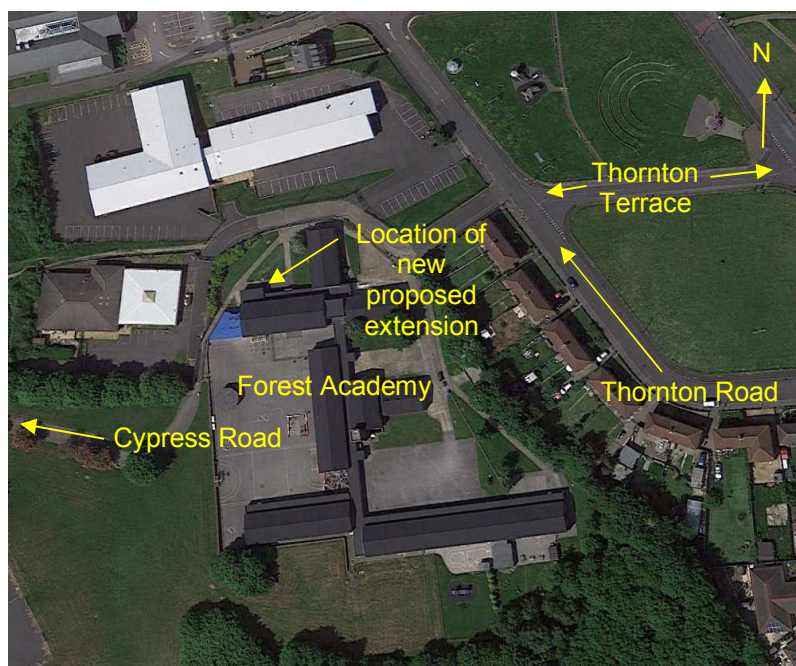


Image 1 – Forest Academy Trust

- 1.2.2 The existing School building was built in ****. The elevation of the school facing the new extension has had a recent curtain walling to the entrance of that part of the school.
- 1.2.3 The School has access of Cypress road and Thornoton road which is located off housing estate. The main roads that have access to the School are positioned east and west.

2.0.0 DESIGN STATEMENT

2.1.0 The Design Process

- 2.1.1 The school currently operates as a primary school, with pupils attending from 1 to year 6. The school building does not have sufficient rooms within the existing building for number of pupils on roll.
- 2.1.2 The submitted proposals reflect the school's wish to construct an "extension" to the existing building which addresses the lack of space and room in the current existing building. The proposals highlights a new floor plan including more classroom space and an additional cupboard. The new building will ultimately provide the, staff and pupils at this School with more spacious and organised environment and its location is designed to provide more room for additional classroom space and storage space to facilities.
- 2.1.3 The design process involved the development of a number of initial design proposals for approval by the school governors. These have been further refined and limited to the submitted scheme that reflects the aspirations of the school.
- 2.1.4 The school were very keen to reflect a similar finishes that suited and complimented the already existing standard traditional build. To that manufactures and materials to suit similar existing building elements that have a minimal maintenance.
- 2.1.5 Externally, the building will have a flat roof to match the existing lower roof on the building and join together as one, which will include all requirements e.g fascia, gutter and down pipe to meet standards on the drainage.

2.2.0 Use

- 2.2.1 The proposed new building will provide a class room space for additional class and small storage space.
- 2.2.2 The proposed building will have an additional opening to allow access to the new extension internally.

2.3.0 Amount

- 2.3.1 The proposal is for an 11.206m x 6.375mm building (external dimensions). This will provide a gross total in usable floor space of 62m².
- 2.3.2 A suitable location for the building was limited to the existing main entrance and car park area.
- 2.3.3 This area existing was ground between walkways and paths.

2.4.0 Layout and Scale

- 2.4.1 A proposal has been devised and agreed with the school governors that enhances the use of the external area to the north of the school. Internally the layout of the building has been

designed to a store room and a class room.

2.4.2 Externally the existing path slabs will be removed and new walkway will be positioned on the existing and joint with new extension to be paved and facilitate level access across the walkway.

2.4.3 The size of the extension has been determined through consultation with the Department for Education guidelines entitled 'Building Bulletin 103: Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools', together with relevant British Standards and Building Regulations.

2.5.0 Appearance

2.5.1 The walling to the extension will be externally faced brick and block work with cladding with an aluminium framed curtain walling and aluminium doors double glazed units. The roof will be a flat roof with external lined parapet on the front elevation

2.6.0 Climate Change

2.6.1 The building will be constructed in full accordance with Part L of the Building Regulations: Conservation of Fuel and Power, and will exceed 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 building with a lower heating demand than the existing building.

2.6.2 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.

3.0.0 ACCESS STATEMENT

3.1.0 Existing Building

3.1.1 The school is located with a pathway currently uneven with paving flag stones not level.

3.2.0 Management and Maintenance

3.2.1 The management of disabled access within the building is 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 Equality Act. Examples of such measures include carrying out regular building and user audits to identify obstructions, ensuring signs are regularly checked and updated and maintaining door furniture.

3.3.0 Summary

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

3.3.2 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 services, facilities and support at the school.

- 3.3.3 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 environment for all.