



PLANNING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Application No	2025/0983
Proposal	Change of use of the existing caretakers bungalow into a school day nursery (Use Class F1(a)) with associated alterations to external appearance; and works to wider school site including extension to car park, new external play areas and boundary treatments (Part Retrospective).
Address	The Mill Academy, Lobwood, Worsbrough Bridge, Barnsley, S70 5EP
Date of Consultation Reply	21/01/2025
Consultee	Claire Wilson, Planning Ecologist

Consultation Assessment and Justification

A BNG assessment and statutory metric have been provided to support the application.

Previous comments regarding the report and metric have largely been addressed within the updated information. I am content with the evidence provided to confirm the baseline habitats are in poor condition and the post development habitat creation and enhancement proposals are considered to be realistic and achievable.

The metric indicates that the baseline value of the habitats is 0.23 units; habitat creation and enhancement measures are proposed to be delivered on site, resulting in a 13.54% net gain. As none of the proposed habitats are considered to be significant, a HMMP is not required in this instance. However, to ensure the proposed habitats are created/enhanced correctly, a Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan (BEMP) will be required.

No Objection

*Delete as applicable

Consultation Suggested Conditions:

- The application is subject to the Biodiversity Gain Condition
- The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following additional Biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures, for which a scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority, prior to the completion of the works. The scheme will include the measures listed below which shall be implemented prior to completion.
 - The number, type and location of bat and bird boxes and hedgehog refugia on an appropriately scaled plan.
 - A sensitive lighting scheme to minimise impacts to foraging and commuting bats.
 - A Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan (BEMP) detailing the programme of habitat creation and enhancement for the first five years.

Consultation Informative(s):

Vegetation clearance should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (March-August inclusive). Should this not be possible then a suitably qualified ecologist should undertake a nesting bird check no more than 48 hours prior to the start of works. Should active nests be found, works should cease until the nests are no longer active and the chicks have fledged and the ecologist has deemed the area to be free of nesting birds.



BARNSLEY

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If a protected species (such as any bat, amphibian, small mammal or any nesting bird) is discovered using a feature on site that would be affected by the development or related works all activity which might affect the species at the locality should cease. You should then seek the advice of a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist and consider the need for a licence from Natural England prior to commencing works. This action is necessary to avoid possible prosecution and ensure compliance with the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Wild Mammals Act 1996. This advice note should be passed on to any persons or contractors carrying out the development/works.

If a bat or evidence of the presence of bats is discovered on site prior to or during development all work should stop immediately. A licensed bat consultant or Natural England must be contacted and works implemented only in accordance with methods advised by them. This advice note should be provided to any persons/contractors carrying out the development along with the contact details of a relevant ecological consultant. This action is necessary to avoid possible prosecution and ensure compliance with the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

Planning Obligations required:

n/a