

**Churchfield Primary School
Cudworth, S72 8JR**

New Foundation Stage Unit

(Job No: ED2330)

Design and Access Statement

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NPS North-East Property Consultants
Navigation House,
Whistler Drive, Castleford,
West Yorkshire WF105HX

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1. Introduction.

This statement is submitted by NPS NE Ltd in support of a full planning application for the construction of a new Foundation Stage Unit at Churchfield Primary School, Snyderdale Road, Cudworth, Barnsley (See Location Plan)

The proposals include

- A new brick built structure with a tile effect pitched roof – 257m²
- Formation of new play area
- Alterations to the external tarmac surface in order to provide an extended playground space.
- Formation of a new access route and adaptations to existing access route.

This statement is drafted in the context of the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's design guidance note 'Design and Access Statement' and CABI publication 'Design and Access Statements- How to write, read and use them' (2006)

2. The Application Site and Surroundings.

2.1 Site:

The site is currently being used as a Primary School and has been for the last 100 years, with the school re-organised in 1990, involving alterations to various aspects of the building.

The main proportion of the school is of brick construction with stone detailing. The original natural slate roof was recently replaced on the majority of the building with a Decra lightweight roofing system to form the appearance of concrete tiles.

The building is situated to the North East of the site with the remaining areas providing playground space. Access is via the main teacher and pupil entrance into the site from Snydale Road however there is also additional access from Church Street via the Staff car park area.

Other than the buildings located on the site the remaining area is generally open with a small number of trees and bushes.

Although the school was built at the turn of the last century it is not thought to be a school of significant architectural importance being built in the vernacular style at the time of construction.

2.2 Surroundings:

The site is conveniently located near to the Town Centre of Cudworth and its public transport infrastructure. There are a number of local amenities nearby, together with all the shops and social activities associated with a Town Centre.

The site is located in a predominantly residential area with some commercial buildings nearby; therefore the proposed development would be appropriate for the area.

2.3 Listed building Historical:

Not applicable.

2.4 Social Context:

There is no potential for overlooking or overshadowing of existing properties due to the position on site / proximity to neighbouring properties and the scale of the proposals.

The site's location makes it suitable for use of all the local facilities and will not have a detrimental impact on these facilities.

2.5 Economic Context:

The design of the proposals will enhance the school's appearance and teaching capabilities improving the attractiveness and facilities available for the existing community and future investors.

2.6 Planning Policies:

The application is compliant with relevant national and regional policies. All Planning Policies as identified in the Local Development Framework Development Policies Document hereafter referred to as the LDF, have been considered during the design of the scheme.

Policy D1 – General Design Standards

1. Layout

The layout and orientation of the building has been designed to fit in with the adjacent building and surrounding site area, with the external area amended and re-graded in places to make access and egress more suitable for all users. The pedestrian and public access is maintained and not implicated upon by the development. Improvements are to be made to both the access into the site and around the site area.

2. Scale

The size of the new building is felt justified in relation to its surroundings and adjacent buildings. The design is based upon the facilities function with standard heights and legislative horizontal dimensions internally. Careful consideration has been made when considering the size of the new building in relation to the existing building which it adjoins.

3. Materials

The materials and colour scheme has been chosen to ensure that the new development is in keeping with its surroundings. The brickwork has been designed to complement the existing building as it will be difficult to find an exact match due to the age of the existing building. Roofing materials are to be the same as the main roof area, so that each area complements each other. The orientation of the roof pitch varies and so the new building works well against the existing when looking at the roofline.

4. Detail

The Architectural style and detailing has been chosen to ensure that the proposals are in keeping with its surroundings, replicating some of the high quality. Stone head have been included within the new design in order to replicate the detail from the existing building. The proposed windows are to match in style with the existing uPVC windows so that the elevations work together when viewed as a whole. The roofline is to run beneath the existing eaves level so that the existing building remains clearly visible as a background to the new building. This way the existing building helps to compliment the new.

5. Space around and between buildings

The co-ordination of new landscaping in relation to the existing surface materials has been designed so that all the open space links together to form a high quality area.

By utilising the open space as part of the design the integration between the building and the external play areas will provide a safe and pleasant environment.

Policy D2 – Sustainable Building Design

- Although the building does not exceed the size stated within the policy the design has been considered so that window openings utilise natural light and the materials used reduce heat loss.

Policy D3 – Safe Places

- The site currently has existing lighting to pedestrian routes and it is proposed to install new lighting to adapted routes along with to the external area of the new building.
- As the new building adjoins the existing school it is clearly visible and is separated from the public highway via the existing boundary wall.

Policy C2 –Existing Community Facilities

- The development will not result in the loss of any facilities in community use.

Policy W3 – Flood risk and Development

- The development is not situated within a washland as shown on the proposals map and is not within a flood plain.