

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

for **THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE CLASSROOM BASE WITH W.C.
FACILITIES, WET AREA & STORE WITH LINKED ACCESS TO MAIN
SCHOOL**

at **ST HELENS PRIMARY SCHOOL**
St Helens Way
Barnsley
S71 2PS

March 2016

development by
NET ZERO BUILDINGS
www.netzerobuildings.co.uk

1.0 Purpose of this Planning Application

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared on behalf of the Academies Enterprise Trust, as part of a Planning Application for a proposed new single storey building to accommodate a single classroom bases with WC, Wet Area and storage provision. This proposal is required in order to improve the quality of space for existing pupils, and to cater for additional children at St Helens Primary School.

The proposed building will be provided by Net Zero Buildings, the developer of numerous award winning low energy classrooms. By utilising off-site construction methods, the build process is extremely rapid and resource efficient. The construction system achieves an A+ energy rating, combining super-insulated walls, floors and roof components with renewable energy generation via Solar PV roof panels. So effective was the solution provided to Moreton Hall Preparatory School in 2012, the development won Suffolk County Council's "Greenest New Building 2013" and the UK Green Building Council's Greenbuild award for "Best New Build, Education Sector 2013".

2.0 Site Context

The proposed building shall be located within the heart of the School's site, adjacent to, and with linked access to the existing main school building. It will provide a welcoming fresh addition to the building stock, fitting comfortably within layout of the existing buildings and site infrastructure.

3.0 Proposed Amount of Development

The proposal is to erect a new single storey building with covered linked access to the main school building, comprising of a single classroom bases with W.C., Wet Area and storage provision. The proposal is rectangular in form. The proposal has a Gross Internal Area of 90 sqm, a monopitch roof (for optimal Solar PV gain) with wall heights to the South Eastern elevation of 2.63m, and to the North Western elevation of 3.73m.

4.0 Layout

The proposal is oriented on a North West – South East axis, to suit and compliment the existing building orientation throughout the site, and to maximise the available site and suitability for linking with the existing main school building, whilst creating minimal disruption or impact on the surrounding buildings. The main entrance is via the existing school building which therefore allows staff, visitors and pupils, covered, safe and convenient access from the existing building and school infrastructure.

5.0 Scale

The overall heights of the proposal are lower than the existing main School buildings, resulting in negligible impact in terms of building massing. The neighbouring properties are not notably affected by this proposal, as it sits within the 'heart' of the school environment and is therefore subject to limited visibility from the North, South and West. The rear garden boundary of residential properties to the East are located approximately 45 metres from the development.

6.0 Appearance & Landscaping

The proposal uses a palette of materials that confidently portray the principles of the efficient, renewable building typology. Walls are to be clad in Western Red Cedar, fixed vertically, which will weather down from a warm gold to an attractive silver-grey finish over time. The window frames, door frames, gutters and slim roofing trims are to be of a dark grey colour. The roof finish is to be of a high performance composite panel, over which will be mounted the array of Solar Photovoltaic panels – a specifically design system combination that provides the most efficient roof area for renewable electricity generation for the benefit of the School, and showcases to the pupils how the new generation of highly efficient building systems can work in a small scale context.

7.0 Access

Level pedestrian access shall be via the main school building, with secondary/escape access from both the link corridor and classroom base, providing level access to outdoor school/recreational facilities in accordance with the current Building Regulations and education sector best practice recommendations.

8.0 Environmental Qualities

The extremely high environmental performance standards of this proposal are wholly based upon the rigorous design principles, technically accurate delivery and construction method, sensitive materials selection, use of controlled ventilation and natural daylight provision. A summary of the key features is as follows:

- Net Zero energy impact: the building uses renewable resources to generate more energy than it consumes, distributing the considerable excess power created to the existing School buildings.
- Construction Innovation: super insulated timber-faced panels are manufactured off site for rapid, clean assembly. The resultant structures are extremely airtight, with minimal heat loss.
- Interior Environment: mechanical heat recovery ventilation, sensor-controlled low energy lighting and plenty of natural daylight from high-level windows create a comfortable, manageable interior environment.



The 3 images to the left show the recent award winning NZB development at Moreton Hall Preparatory School, Bury St Edmunds.

The materials proposed for this Planning Application are as per those indicated in these photographs.



Winner

Suffolk County Council
Greenest New Building 2013



Winner

UK Green Building Council, Greenbuild
Best New Build, Education Sector 2013



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