DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY PLANNING APPLICATION FOR:

Installation of artificial turf & play equipment

AT
HERONS DALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SHOREHAM BY SEA

INTRODUCTION

This Design & Access Statement has been prepared by Abbott Surveyors Ltd, on behalf of Herons Dale Primary school & West Sussex County Council to support the following proposed works:

Full planning consent for the installation of artificial turf (315m2) & a single climbing frame at the above school. Works will involve the conversion of grassed areas into artificial turfed areas to allow usage of these areas throughout the year, which is not currently possible.

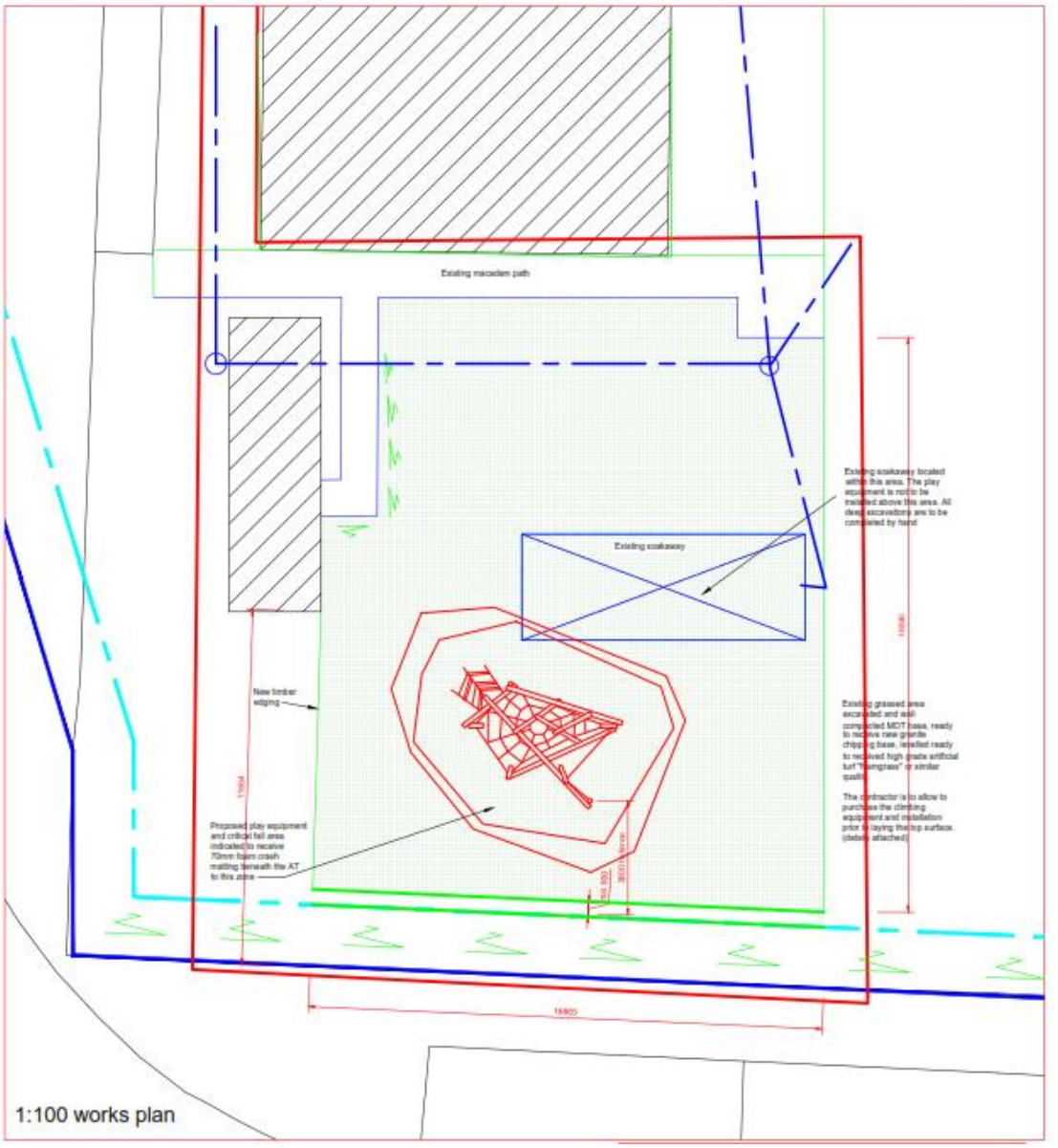
BACKGROUND

The school was originally built in the 1982 and has seen two further large extensions; one completed in 2006 and another extension completed in 2015.

Herons Dale School caters for children with special needs. Within our cohorts we have a small number of children who have specific SEMH needs. These children display complex needs and challenging behaviour. They access an area of the school which allows them to have their own space when needed and allows for limited transitions, both which help the children succeed at school. The area has a porta-cabin which acts as the inside learning space. We are developing the outdoor learning space as at the moment the turf and mud patches are not suitable for all weathers and is restricting children's outdoor learning opportunities. Artificial grass will allow this area to be used in all weathers. As well as the children who access it, other children in the school would benefit from a large piece of climbing equipment to support sensory needs. This is something we do not have at Herons Dale currently.

SITE & LOCATION

The school is located to the south of the A27 adjacent to the Holmbush shopping centre, in Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex.



CONTEXT

The surrounding area is mainly retail outlets and residential, in terms of the social context. The proposed development will improve School facilities and service provision; therefore benefitting the local community to which it serves. The proposed development will not have any negative, nor positive economic impact.

AMOUNT

The total area of artificial turf to be provided is 315m2, laid on a granular material, with the "critical fall area" laid on 45mm impact foam. The climbing frame is to be provided by a specialist supplier for schools equipment.

LAYOUT

The proposed works will be completed to the southern aspect of the main school building, alongside a modular building. Although the area is mainly laid to grass, this small area if field is utilised for specific pupil needs. The school shares are playing field with the neighbouring Primary school, therefore there will be no loss of playing fields as a result of these works.

SCALE

The proposed development will have little impact to the character of the existing school site and is located between the main school building and the boundary of the Holmbush estate and will not be visible from the estate or any other locations, due to the change in level and trees located along the boundary.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Arboriculture – There are trees located along to western and southern boundary, however these are located beyond the inner security fencing and some on or beyond the boundary of this site. Therefore, trees will be protected by existing permanent fencing during completion of these works and following the works.

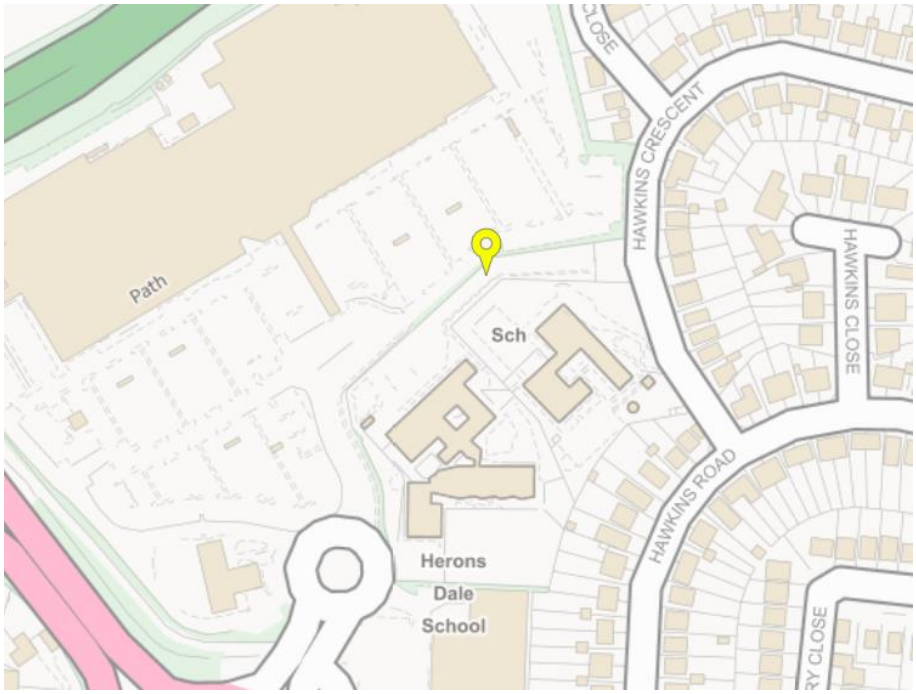
The low depth excavation has been limited to within 500mm of the inner security fencing, therefore approximately 2.6m from the boundary and the line of existing trees.



All necessary excavations to facilitate these works will be shallow, to a maximum depth of 150mm.

The crane position will be carefully positions to avoid disturbing trees along the boundary line. Crane selection has been specified to give sufficient height to lift the building over the trees or around as required.

Flood – No part of the school site is located within a flood zone or flood risk area, therefore there is considered to be no risk of flooding to the school.



The existing grassed area top soil is well compacted from pupil use and in wet periods becomes very boggy and un-usable. This installation will allow this area to be used all year round and the sub-structure provided *(see below)* will increase the permeability of the ground preventing ponding occurring.

The existing top soil will be removed to a depth of 150mm. A 100mm well compacted roadstone will be provided as a sub-base, laid upon a weed barrier. A 30 to 50mm layer of well compacted fine granite chippings will be laid upon the sub-base to even the surface to allow the artificial turf to be laid on top. Therefore, a 150mm depth of permeable sub-base will provide good permeability to this area.

A existing bund around this site (see previous photograph) will prevent any surface water discharging from this site onto neighbouring premises.

Biodiversity - The additional footprint will not adversely affect the local biodiversity. The land around the building is not contaminated and will not be contaminated by the proposed additions to the building.

APPEARANCE

The new grass will be coloured green, so there will be no detrimental visual impact as a result of these works.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

These works are proposed to be completed during the summer break, so that pupils are not impacted or disrupted. This period will also provide less traffic to and from the school site (for both schools locally) therefore giving little impact to neighbouring properties.

Deliveries and working will be restricted to between 8am and 6pm