DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT FOR REPLACEMENT OF GRASS WITH TARMACADAM AT ST NICOLAS AND ST MARY PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Nicolas and St Mary Primary School is expanding from a one form entry school to two form entry in two year groups (an additional 60 pupils). As a result building works will begin shortly to create an additional small hall, staff room, and larger office and foyer. The small hall and staff room will be constructed on the existing Key Stage 2 playground which currently accommodates 122 pupils. As a consequence of the building works a portion of the playground will be lost due to the additional buildings, and a large area will also be off limits during the project (September 2013 – January 2014) for access and for the contractors' compound. Therefore, the available hard play area will be insufficient to accommodate the pupils.

After discussions with the school governors, the school leadership team have decided to construct an additional netball court on the school playing fields. The school benefits from very spacious playing fields and would still be able to accommodate two '7-a-side' football pitches during the winter, and running tracks during the summer.

Access

The netball court will be situated on a level surface and will be equally accessible for all users.

Drainage

The construction of the new netball court will incorporate porous tarmacadam surface in accordance with Sport England recommendations. If necessary, soakaways will be installed, subject to discussions with the local building control department.

Educational Need

There is a requirement for the children to have use of an outside space in all weathers. The existing hard play area available to children during and after the expansion project is not sufficient to meet that requirement. An additional netball court will allow the school to make better use of its grounds throughout the year, as well as ensuring there is adequate play space for all children to play safely at break and lunch times.

The hard play area where the development is taking place currently has 2 netball courts, but there will only be 1 available after the work is completed. The school wishes to offer suitable resources for sport both for the curriculum and after school sports activities, and this is another reason why the school wishes to create an additional court for year round sports.

ADUR & WORTHING PLANNING SERVICES	
PLAN	AWDM/ 1077/13
DATE VALID	28 AUG 2013

Lighting

There is no flood lighting of the site. There will be no change to this.

Noise

The school has always existed alongside residential neighbours with no noise complaints. The change of the grass surface will not change this good relationship.

Appearance

Whilst the grass area is visible from Eastern Avenue and the rear gardens of surrounding properties, the construction of the netball court should not significantly impact on the overall appearance of the site. The school field is expansive and no trees will be affected by the project.

Construction

The contractors will remove approximately 225 mms of the top surface of the existing grass, which will be disposed of at an approved site. This will be replaced by porous membranes containing weed control and limestone to form a level surface on which the tarmacadam will be laid. This has been discussed and approved by the County Building Surveyor.

The site is basically a rectangle measuring 33m x 20m.