

North Heath Community Primary School, Horsham, RH12 5XL

Design and access statement:

The property is currently a state sector primary school – there is no proposed change in use and no fabric change to the buildings nor boundary walls. All work will be completed within the existing boundary of the Reception Outdoor Learning Area.

It is also acknowledged that the site is situated in an area of serious water stress where mains water is supplied by Southern Water from its Sussex North Water Resource Zone (SNWRZ). The proposed changes will not lead to any increase in mains water demand as use of the area is not changing and the number of children that access the play area will also remain the same. Our dynamic specification of groundworks is also designed to be permeable, allowing water to soak through to the natural earth underneath as it currently does now.

This work needs to take place as the current surface is not fit for purpose. By undertaking these groundworks, the children will have access to an all-weather play area that they can make use of all year round and one that is safe from trip hazards and unsuitable surfaces for active play to take place, in line with BS EN1177. At present, the children are heavily restricted in their play when the weather is poor and are unable to make best use of the space they have been provided. Once the works have been completed, the school will have an area fit for delivery of the EYFS Statutory Framework.

The use of artificial grass in a natural green colour will also ensure that the area maintains a similar aesthetic look to that which is currently in place, and in places will enhance its visual appeal by replacing worn out patches of mud.

Access to the site will be provided through the school's main gates, using the car park as a compound for materials, equipment, and waste disposal. Plant will access the development area by entering the school grounds through the main gates, across the front playground, and into the Reception play space.

Hours of operation will be between 8am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. There will be no work or deliveries undertaken outside of these hours or over the weekend.

Please refer to the Site and Block plans that have been uploaded with this application. The various plans, which have also been uploaded, show the proposed changes and as you will see these do not change the use of the space, nor the outlook from the road or its surround properties.

