

<b>Application Number</b>	WSSC/012/23
<b>Location</b>	Downlands School, Dale Avenue, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8LP
<b>Proposal</b>	Proposed new single storey classroom block and associated external works. Alterations to existing car park to provide additional spaces and EV charging points.
<b>Applicant</b>	WSSC Assistant Director of Property & Assets
<b>Grid Reference</b>	530913 115213

---

No objection subject to informative.

Comment

On the 30th of December 2022, Writtle Forest Consultancy Ltd completed a PEA at Downlands Community School.

Conclusion: No further surveys are required assuming that 1) works will be undertaken outside of Bird nesting season and 2) dismantling and removal of existing vegetation and wood piles on the site are carried out carefully by hand, prior to commencement of works and outside of the hibernation period.

Enhancement opportunities have been recommended in accordance with national policies for biodiversity net gain. These appear to have been adopted.

Informative:

Birds in the act of nesting are protected under criminal law. The applicant is advised to carry out a check for breeding birds in any vegetation that is programmed for removal between march and September. If birds are breeding the vegetation should stay in place until the chicks have fledged.

-----  
**Don Baker MCIEEM**

Team Manager, Environment & Heritage, Planning Services

West Sussex County Council, Ground Floor, Northleigh, County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RQ

Phone: 033 022 26439

Email: [don.baker@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:don.baker@westsussex.gov.uk) | Web: [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)