# Design & Access Statement (DAS)

Supporting Statement (Incorporating Design & Access Statement) for:

Rev 01
Date:30/07/2024

**Site and Location:**
Endon High School,
Leek Road, Endon, Stoke-on-Trent, ST9 9EE

**Application details**
Full planning application:

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**1:00 Introduction:**

This application has been prepared in consultation with the end users / client.
The design has been approached in a methodical manner, commencing with the collation of information available concerning the physical, legal and architectural constraints on the site.
Procedures have been followed which have ensured that as much information and consultation as possible has been gathered to avoid the potential for future problems later.

# Design and Access Statement

**2:00 Summary and Justification of Proposals**

***2:01 Background and Statement of Use and Need:***

Endon High School is part of the Shaw Trust Ltd, converted to Academy status in November 2020.
The school is an inclusive mixed gender school, providing secondary education for students from the ages of 11 to 16 years, it is situated on the outskirts of Stoke-on-Trent, located approximately half-way between the Potteries and the market town of Leek.
The pupils are representative of the area: some are from rural; farming families and others opt in from the nearby Stoke suburbs.

Existing Parking on site:

- The present parking arrangements consist of two main areas.
  Area 1. The front of the school with Leek Road has 22 spaces, plus 1 DDA space and is accessible through the schools southeast vehicular gate and operates in and out access system.
  Area 2. This is located on the schools' northern boundary, this is accessed through the schools' northeast gate with Leek Road, this has 25 designated spaces, plus 4 DDA spaces which also operates in and out access system (please refer to dwg A2 Topo survey).
- The present northern vehicle and pedestrian site access/movement is unsafe for pupils at arrival, breaks, lunch time and departure due to traffic competing with pupils. Efforts are made to manage comings and goings, but this is an ongoing challenge/threat. The proposal is to limit this threat, there would be a reduced need to use the northern car park area, this would only be used for overflow parking when required and thus reduce this threat.
- The school's proposal is to turn a section of the existing parking (school northern boundary area) into a social space for students during the day.

Proposed Parking on site:

- The proposal is to redevelop the schools' eastern boundary (Front of school) with Leek Road and create a total of 73 parking spaces of which 30 spaces would be classed as restricted parking for staff who will be staying on site throughout the working day, this space would be managed by the school.
- The proposal would be to create a one-way entry/exit system, this will include one-way signage and markings (please refer to Proposed Parking Scheme EHS040424B.
  The school will retain 10 existing and 4 DDA parking spaces along its Northern boundary as an overspill car park when required (please refer to A3 proposed parking plan highlighted yellow).

Traveling to site:

- Several coaches pick up and drop of pupils which goes some-way towards easing congestion on the local highways and outside the school.
  The current pupil number are 698 with a school capacity of 700, the numbers are predicted to remain at their current level.
- At break times there is no space or capacity to accommodate all the pupils, the proposal would free up much needed social space for pupils, the lack of social space was highlighted in a recent Ofsted inspection has a concern and highlighted as an area for improvement.
- The current site has limited space, the proposal would allow the school to develop the northern boundary into social space (furniture/canopies), the proposed scheme would improve the wellbeing of pupils and allow the school to develop the area.

***2:02*** Benefits of the Proposals:

- The proposal would free up much needed space for social development.
- The proposed layout would assist Key SEND parents with the required safe drop off and collection areas onsite that a free flow one-way system would provide.
- The proposed layout and additional parking will assist in removing vehicles parking on the local highway and provide the school with much need student social area.

The proposed asphalt surface finish would allow rainwater to drain naturally through its surface and disperse through natural means without adding any extra burden to the existing drainage system (please refer to Appendix 1 Ultidrive Porous).

**3:00 General Design and Access Principles**

***3:01 Description of Site and Surroundings:***

- The schools' main buildings are of double- and single-story height with redbrick and grey tiled apex roof. The school as several standalone temporary volumetric buildings on site.
- The external areas consist of the following:
  Ornamental grass, Evergreen and deciduous mature/semi mature and extra heavy standard trees, Shrubs, Hard standing asphalt car parks, paths, sports courts and social areas. Boundary hedges walls and metal fencing.
  The school is situated on the A53 Leek Road, Endon.
- The surrounding properties are private residential dwellings with a mix of single and double-single-story-apex roof design.
- The school as a detached natural grass playing field approx... 400m south along the A53 Leek Road.

Grid reference: X: 392190 Easting, Y: 352476 Northing

***3:02 Design / Character:***
The finish surface is a black asphalt.
The proposed fencing and gates would match the existing design and colour

***3:03 Design / Continuity and Enclosure:***
N/A

***3:04 Design / Quality of the Built Environment (Public Realm):***
N/A

***3:05 Design / Ease of Movement:***
A one-way vehicular movement system would be in place.

***3:06 Design / Legibility:***
N/A

***3:07 Design / Adaptability:***
N/A

***3:08 Design / Diversity:***
N/A

***3:09 Access / Philosophy and Approach to Inclusive Design:***
The school's policy of equality where reasonably practicable, inclusion and accessibility in the delivery of its services to members of the public, and in the employment, opportunities afforded to existing and future employees.
The school fully recognises the diversity of cultural, religious, and individual abilities of its customers and employees, and is active in ensuring that any potential sources of discrimination are addressed in both the physical attributes of the buildings it uses and in the management practices and procedures it adopts.

The school is committed to ensuring where reasonably practicable that the facilities it provides, uses, and manages, afford its customers, clients and employees the opportunity to maximise their individual abilities and enjoy safe and, wherever possible, independent participation in accordance with Disability Equality Duty and the published Scheme.
The proposed development presents issues relating to accessibility and inclusion which would need to be addressed if the obligations imposed by the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 (DDA) are to be met.

Where reasonably practicable the designers of the development will work to the latest legislation and good practice guidance on accessibility available at the design and construction stages. How the design, the provision of features and facilities, and the selection of materials will influence any obligations imposed by other legislation affecting the on-going management of the facility will also be taken into consideration. The Academy is committed to undertaking a structured programme of regular reviews of new technologies, constructional developments and training to ensure that the on-going and evolving obligations imposed by the DDA are met.
Reviews will be undertaken to ensure that the following design principles promoted by CABE (*Principles of inclusive Design*) have been considered and wherever practicable, incorporated within design proposals.

a) ***Inclusion****:* To ensure that the premises can be used safely, easily and with dignity by all.

b) ***Responsive****:* That new proposals consider and address what the community and end users say that they need and want.

c) ***Flexibility****:* That the proposals permit the premises to be used by different people in different ways wherever practicable.

d) ***Convenience****:* To ensure that every occupant and visitor can use the facility as intended without inconvenience or separation.

e) ***Accommodating****:* that the proposals accommodate use by all people regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, mobility or circumstances were reasonably practicable.

*f)* ***Welcoming****:* To ensure that barriers or discrimination of use are eliminated.

*g)* ***Realistic*** To ensure that alternative solutions are provided it is recognised *that* proposals cannot accommodate all potential users.

h) ***Understandable****:* That the proposals are designed to facilitate orientation and recognizable circulation routes.

***3:10 Access / Sources of Advice and Guidance:***
The school has worked with the design team. The design of the facility and in the selection of materials, finishes and equipment that will have an impact on the long-term accessibility of the facility. The Team will also advise, when appropriate, on how selection decisions were made. The school advisor will also be available, if required, to advise the designer on disability related matters.

***3:11 Access / Consultation:***
The school is committed to a policy of obtaining information and first-hand experiences from users, potential users and representing them. In accordance with its Disability Equality Duty and implementing recommendations for the external layout and design as it relates to accessibility and inclusion.

***3:12 Access / Management and Maintenance:***
The school will monitor the proposed design and its workings along with the materials. used, for future projects.

***4:00 Project Specific Design Statement.***

***4:01 Use:***
The school and its users.

***4:02 Amount of Development:***
The extension of the existing car park approx. 620m².
Proposed paths approx. 138m².
No additional lighting will be required as part of this scheme.

***4:03 Layout:***
The total development area measures approx. 1,720m².

***4:04 Scale, Height and Massing*:**
The total development area measures approx. 1,720m².
The proposed fencing and gates will match existing in material, height and colour.

***4:05 Appearance*:**
The car park surface will be black in colour.
No new lighting is proposed within this proposal.

***4:06 Services*:**
All works to be carried out by approved contractor to the latest IEE regulations.
No new additional drainage is proposed.

***4:07 Landscaping:***
The site falls within an area of built character,
The proposal will result in the loss of approx. 660m² of ornamental grass.
Grass re-instatement work will be carried out as required on completion to all affected areas using the following cultivation:
Re-use excavated topsoil, finish levels to be flush with top of new kerb system.
Re-seed all grass reinstatement areas using a playing field Rye grass mix: Application rate 50 g/m²
Please refer to Fauna Forest Ecology BNG report and recommendations (Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment). The proposed landscaping/planting will be carried out within the first planting season following project completion, to be carried out by the school's outdoor gardening group.

All works will comply with BS 4428:1989.

***4:08 Sustainability*:**
The school have a commitment to investing in sustainable design and the incorporation of features within the current proposals will be investigated and confirmed as the project develops into detail design stage.

***4:09 Phasing*:**
Project duration: It is proposed for a single-phase operation lasting approx. 28 working days. (project duration will be weather dependant). Temporary fencing location will be diploid throughout the Construction phase (to be discussed and agreed with the school).
The school's is proposing to carry out any recommended landscaping, planting and aftercare.

5.0 **Project Specific Access Statement:**
The main access route to site will be the A53 Leek Road from the direction of Stockton Brook and the A500 Queensway.

**5:01** ***Access to the site – by private / public transport:***
The main access route to site will be northeast along the A53 Leek Road.

**5:02** ***Parking***:
The proposed facility will increase the existing numbers of parking spaces on-site and free up space for pupil social area (please refer to Proposed Parking EHS040424B).

**5:03** ***Visibility / Entrance and Exits***:
The existing visibility entrances and exits will not change.

The proposed is to change the current egress movement (entrances/exits), the car park will operate a one-way traffic system (please refer to A3Proposed parking ehs040424b).

**5:04** ***Horizontal Circulation***:
N/A

**5:05** ***Vertical Circulation***:
**N/A**

**5:06** ***Means of Escape***:
N/A

**5:07** ***Emergency Services***:
No change

**5:08** ***Specific Issues***:
Access for construction vehicles will be through the schools' existing road system off Leek Road. Timing of deliveries will be disused with the schools' representatives (Risk Assessment) before project commencement.
Construction traffic: Regular use of road sweeper will be employed to surrounding highways within the vicinity has and when required.
Deliveries: Consultation will be agreed with the school prior project commencement.

Note: Before any work commences a Risk Assessments (RAMs) will be carried out with the schools' representatives and monitored daily, any changes will be brought into effect immediately.

## Additional Information

*(Qu. 7 on the planning application form)*

**6:00 Pre-application Discussions and Constraints identified:**
Pre-application advice was received from Staffordshire Moorlands DC on 13/03/2024. All recommendations incorporated within this planning application.
Since the photos were taken for the pre-app advice the school have removed several trees along the development area for Health & Safety concerns with regarding drainage issues and overhead cables.
Trees removed T3, T2, T1, T35, T34, T33, T32, T31 and T30 (Please refer to Tree safety Report 2022).

**7.0 Operating hours**
No change.

8.0 **Transport Assessment and / or Travel Plan:**
Please contact the school for further information.

**9.00 Sustainability Statement:**
The school is commitment to investing in sustainable design and the incorporation of features within the current proposals will be investigated and confirmed as the project develops into detail design stage.

9.01 **Biodiversity / geological conservation / landscape and natural beauty:**
Please refer to Funa Forest Ecology, Appendix 4 Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment.

9.02 **Flood Risk Assessment:**
This falls within flood zone1, low probability of flooding
Please refer to Appendix 2 flood map plan.

**9.03 Air Quality Assessment**
N/A

9.03 **Site waste management plan:**

Sub-base and turf excavation will be removed from site to a local registered landfill site.
Small amount of excavated topsoil spread and re-used for reinstatement work on completion.

9.04 **Noise impact assessment:**
During the construction phase all machinery will be switch off when not in use.
Deliveries will be scheduled and kept to a minimum.
Consultation regarding delivery times will be discussed with the school prior project commencement, risk assessment (RAMs).

9.06 **Lighting assessment:**
No additional lighting will be included within this project.

**9.07 Any other assessments as appropriate – for example**
**Listed building and / or conservation area appraisal:**
N/A.

**Historical, archaeological features and Scheduled Ancient Monuments:**
N/A

**Tree survey / arboriculture statement:**
Please refer Appendix 3, Arboricultural Report and Safety Survey.

**Open Space:**
N/A

**Contaminated land:**
All excavations will be transported to designated/registered landfill site and checked for contamination.

**Assessment of the treatment of foul sewage:**
N/A.

**Utilities statement:**
N/A

**Energy statement:**
N/A

**Sound insulation requirements:**
**N/A**

**Sunlight / Daylighting assessment.**
N/A

**Lighting scheme assessment:**
No additional lighting is proposed.

**Structural survey.**
Any soft spots found will be excavated and replaced with extra sub-base.

**10.0 Hazardous substances:**
N/A

11.0 **Planning Policy Statement:**
All pre-application advice and guidance received 13 March 2024 have been incorporated within these proposals.

12.0 **Restoration and Aftercare.**
Road sweeper will be deployed to roads within the vicinity of the school when required…. throughout the construction phase.
Grass re-instatement work will be carried out on completion of project to all areas affected by proposed development works.

**A list of the supporting documents, plans, drawings and photographs:**

- A0 Site Survey
- Appendix 1 Ultridrive Porous.
- Appendix 2 Flood map for planning.
- Appendix 3 Tree Safety Report.
- Appendix 4 Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment.
- A3 Development Area EHS040424D.
- A4 Endon High School EHS170124A, (Block Plan).
- A3 Proposed Parking Scheme EHS300724B.
- A4 Site Photo 1.

All recommended Landscaping and aftercare will be carried out by the school.
Please refer to: Funa Forest Ecology, Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment.