

# Design & Access Statement

## Safeguarding Improvements at The Cowplain School



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## Document Control Record

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Job No. 181027

### **1.00 Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to support the planning application for a proposed safeguarding improvements and resurfacing scheme at The Cowplain School, Havant.

This Design and Access Statement is to be read in conjunction with the following drawings and documents:

Kendall Kingscott Drawing:

180787 1100 - Site Location Plan  
180787 1200 - Existing Plan  
180787 1300 - Existing Elevation  
180787 1400 - Proposed Plan  
180787 1500 - Proposed Elevation

### **2.00 Existing Site Provisions**

The existing site is accessed from Hart Plain Avenue, and forms the main entrance and access road into the school.

There are currently 2No. entrances to the school that serve as ingress / egress points for trades/deliveries, staff and parents. No physical barriers and/or access controls exist across the site, meaning vehicles are unrestricted and staff have no means of controlling vehicle and pedestrian access to and from the school.

The site abuts residential dwellings to the east, separated by a chainlink fence and high hedges running along the boundary. To the west, the area of proposed work abuts the school's over flow car park (also used as tennis courts) together with the school's independent day nursery which is also accessed via the main entrance.

The hardstanding is generally a macadam surface with local soft landscaping throughout the main access roads and car park areas to the front of the site.

### **3.00 Proposed Scheme & Justification**

The lack of physical barriers and separation between the school and public roads has raised valid concerns about the school's approach to safeguarding and site security.

Kendall Kingscott were approached to prepare a design that addresses said concerns, and the proposals naturally evolved to implement additional minor changes to elements viewed as integral to the way in which students, staff and parents use the site.

The consequential changes comprise minor adaptations to internal road layouts to ease congestion and improve vehicle movement, together with improvements to disabled/wheelchair access to the school through new Building Regulations (Part M) compliant entrance doors to the North (Principal) Elevation.

The proposals put forward in this planning application address the following concerns by implementing the associated actions noted below.

### 4.00 Safeguarding

**Issue:** Inadequate site security and poor safeguarding measures. No physical separation to front boundary of school site and public areas.

**Actions:**

- Implement new security fencing covering boundaries and provide pedestrian / vehicle separation;
- Provide new vehicle and pedestrian gates incorporating programmable access controls and intercom systems to control throughput.

**Considerations**

- *All new fencing and access gates (both vehicle and pedestrian) are to be a maximum of 1.8m high;*
- *Low level planters containing hedges and bushes are to be installed in front and behind internal fencing to improve appearance.*

### 5.00 Internal Road Layout

**Issue:** Poorly designed internal road layout due to tight corners and 'pinch point' for vehicles adjacent overflow carpark entrance, resulting in congestion during peak times.

**Actions:**

- Minor adaptations to internal road layout to facilitate vehicle gate installation and associated security fencing;
- Increased no. of designated pedestrian crossings to complement improved site access routes;
- Removal of pinch point to improve vehicle access and ease congestion.

**Considerations**

- *Existing bell mouth junction to be retained. No adaptations to public highway;*
- *No planned tree and/or hedge removals.*

### 6.00 Main Entrance Doors

**Issue:** Existing main entrance door and side entrance door do not currently provide suitable means of ingress/egress for wheelchair users and alike.

**Actions:**

- Replace existing doors with new powder coated aluminium counterparts to improve component longevity and aesthetics;
- Replacements to be Building Regulations (Part M) compliant and include automation suitable for the environment;
- Installation of new pedestrian access ramps to supplement new external doors. (No planning implication).

### **7.00 Highways**

The works will not alter the local adopted highway network.

Construction traffic will access the site from an existing entrance from Hart Plain Avenue and will be undertaken during the school's summer holidays, thus ensuring peak times are avoided.

### **8.00 Environmental Protection**

- All minor ground excavation works will be carried out fully in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1984;
- Existing trees and hedgerow close to the development site - it is not envisaged that the works will effect any of these hedges or trees.

### **9.00 Drainage**

- Drainage will be handled using the existing school drainage system.

### **10.00 Ecology**

- There are no known species affected by the works.

### **11.00 Conservation Area**

- The school does not lie within a Conservation Area, nor are there any TPO's on any trees.