

Whitchurch High School – Science Block
WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-RP-A-0002 (D5) P04

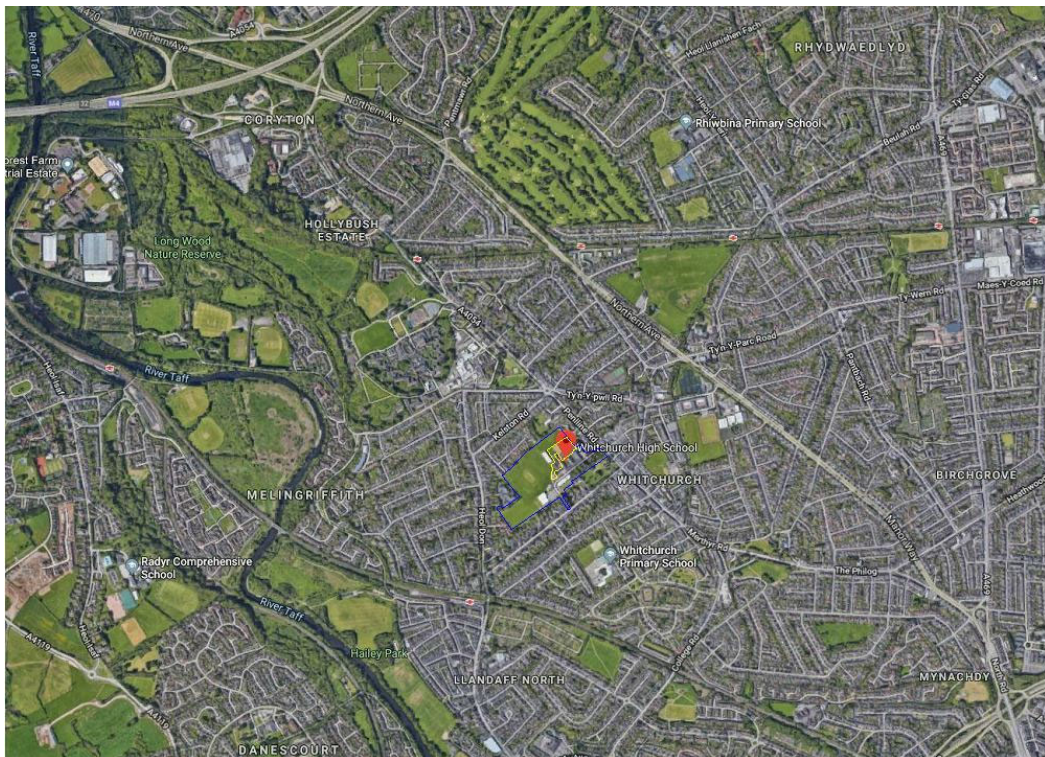
Design and Access Statement

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Outline

This statement has been produced to accompany a full planning application submitted to Cardiff Council for a new Science teaching block at Whitchurch High School, Penlline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff. The new facility will replace existing single storey temporary buildings used for Storage and a Science Teaching Block.

Below: Satellite view WHS Science & Art Block (NTS – Google map)



2.0 Assessment, Design and Access

2.1 General Site details

Whitchurch High School is situated in Whitchurch suburb of Cardiff close to junction 32 of the M4 motorway and accessed via the A4054 Penlilne Rd with a site exit via Church Rd. The land use surrounding the site is predominately residential with local shopping and amenities to the North East.

2.2 Scheme Overview

The intention of the proposal is to replace existing accommodation which is in poor condition and beyond economic repair. This includes a science teaching building currently housing classrooms, staff spaces and in addition 2No. single storey cabins used for general storage.

The existing Science building and cabins are not fit for purpose and their replacement will greatly improve the quality of teaching and learning facilities, contribute to improved movement on site, reduce energy consumption, improve the supervision of adjacent external areas and provide additional soft and hard social space. A new single storey block will replace lost spaces for science teaching facilities. This new block will be located to the rear of the main school buildings on a redundant hardcourt area.

Access will be via a central ground floor entrance serving an internal central corridor. A hard landscaping perimeter around the building provides for maintenance access to the building and roof. Replacement soft landscaping is provided to replace the redundant hardcourt area.

Below: Cabins (middle) to be replaced



Below: Existing hard courts and cabin blocks to be replaced



2.3 Scope of Works

- Creation of a temporary construction access haul road within the site boundary
- Existing single story Porta Cabins to be demolished.
- Construction of the new single storey School building with external landscape around the building.

2.4 Design

The existing and proposed plans are shown on drawings numbers:

WHS-AHR-B1-00-DR-A-2050 Planning - GA Ground Floor Plan

WHS-AHR-B1-01-DR-A-2050 Planning - GA First Floor Plan

WHS-AHR-B1-RF-DR-A-2050 Planning - Roof Plan

WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-2060 Planning - Proposed Elevations

WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-2070 Planning - Proposed Sections

WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-9250 Planning - Proposed Site Plan

WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-9251 Planning - Proposed Location Plan

WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-9255 Planning - Existing Site Plan

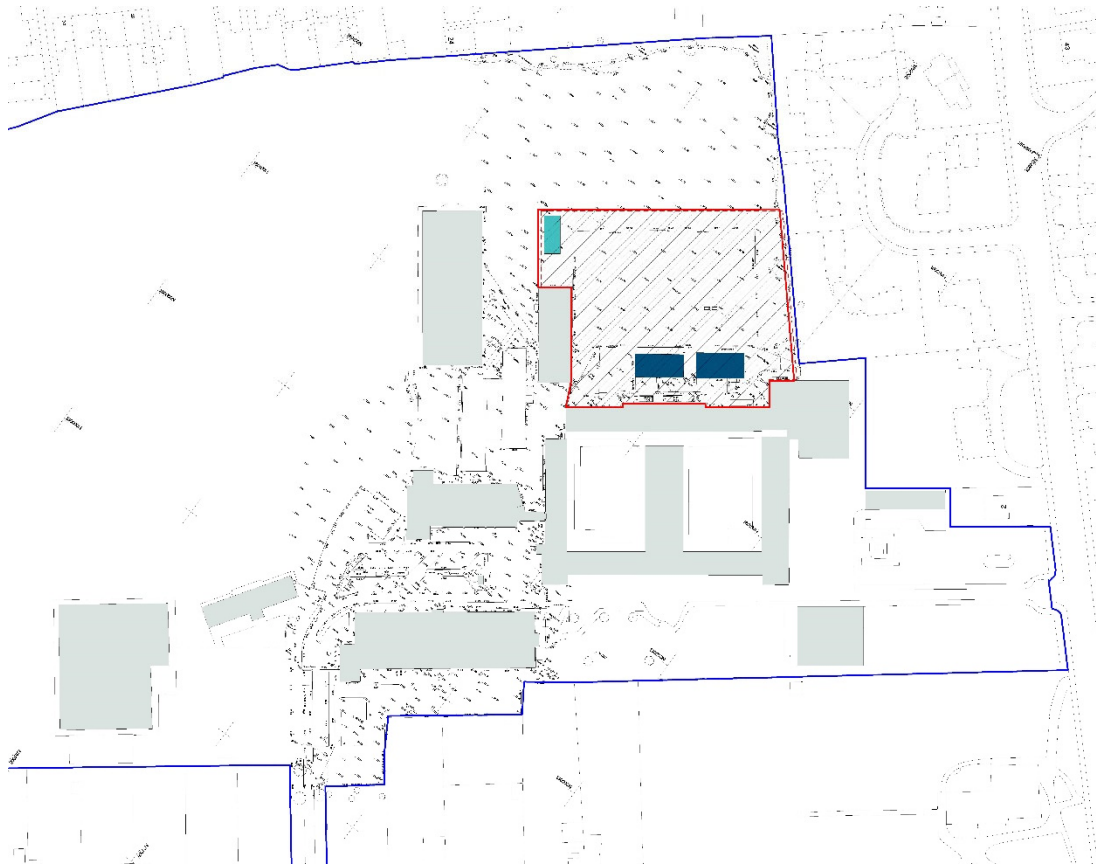
WHS-AHR-B1-ZZ-DR-A-9256 Planning - Demolition Site Plan

WHS-HYD-XX-XX-DR-C-0500 – Proposed Levels

WHS-HYD-XX-XX-DR-C-0600 – Drainage

The area of existing building footprint (single storey elements for replacement) is approximately 1,500 sq/m.

Below: Existing Site Plan indicating the existing cabins highlighted to be demolished (Dark Blue)
Construction site created within secure hoarding line (red line). Site cabin location shown (light blue).



Below: Proposed Site Plan, new building highlighted in yellow

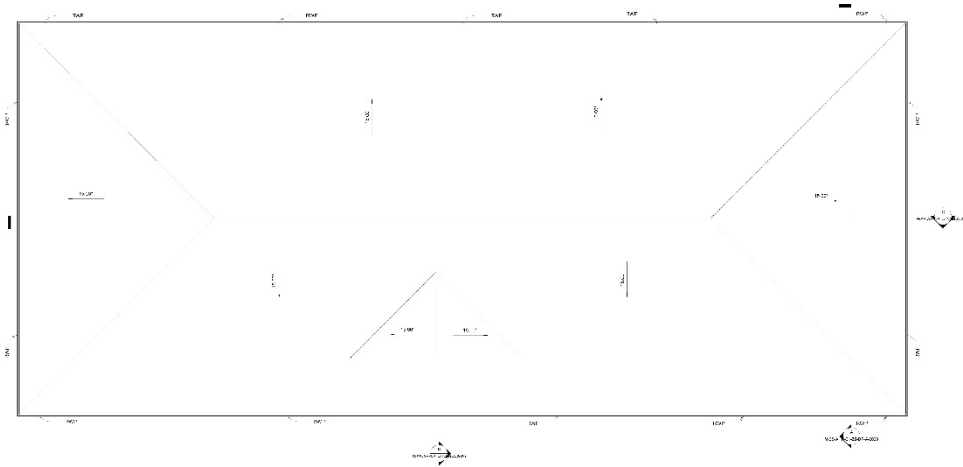


Internal planning is relatively conventional with a central corridor serving banks of teaching, storage and administration spaces. Central pupil toilets include provision for accessible Wc's .

Below: Ground Floor GA Plan



Below: Roof Plan



The building has a simple geometry hipped roof which provides an easy to maintain roof with reduced requirement for access. Being single storey, a pitched roof reduces the risk of security issues from unauthorised roof access a problem with flat roof blocks.

External materials have been selected for robustness, life span and suitability for a school environment and to ensure the proposal has a sympathetic relationship with existing brick buildings on site.

The material list is as follows (see elevation next page for key numbers):

- 1 Facing Bricks - Butterley County, Multi Rustic Brick
- 2 External doors – Colour BLUE
- 3 Cladding Aluminium PPC cladding- Colour: Graphite RAL 7016

4. Aluminium rain water goods, fascia and soffit - Colour: Graphite RAL 7016
5. Roofing- Mertoslate 450 lightweight roofing slates, Colour: Dark grey
6. External window frames – Upvc Colour - White
7. Air Source heat pump units
8. Dark blue engineering brick

Below: Proposed Elevation (SW)



Below: Proposed Elevation (NE)



Below: Proposed Elevation (NW)

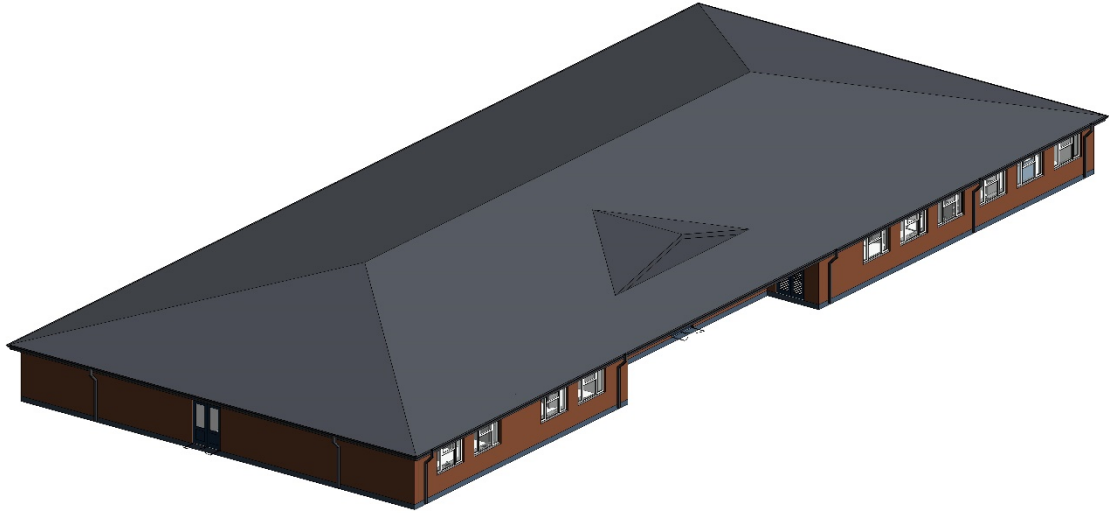


Below: Proposed Elevation (SE)



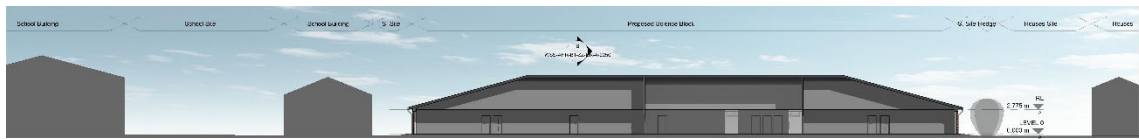
The visual impact from outside the site will be minimal, it cannot be seen from adjacent highways due to the height of the other school buildings.

Below: Proposed Massing diagrams



The single storey building is orientated with its narrow gable end facing the closest adjacent residential boundary hedge, this closest façade has limited windows. To the north a larger expanse of green open area exists between the proposed building and neighbouring houses.

Below: Proposed site section



2.5 Access

The vehicular and pedestrian access for the site will remain as existing. There are no new external steps required for Ground Floor only localised sloping of ground level to facilitate a level access threshold. External access doors are Part m compliant double doors and all internal corridors are sized to enable ease of use by users in wheelchairs.