

DESIGN, ACCESS
STATEMENT

for

Proposed Temporary
Accommodation

at

Whitehill Infant School
Luxford Road
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 2HW

for

East Sussex County
Council's Children's
Services Dept.

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1.0 Introduction

This statement has been produced as supplementary information for the planning application for the proposed 1 no. temporary 'mobile' classroom building within the site. It is to be read in conjunction with the architectural drawing submitted with the application. At the time of application these are 2029-D-100.

2.0 Context

This application is being made on behalf of East Sussex County Council's Children's Services (ESCC CS) for the addition of 1 no. temporary 'mobile' classroom at Whitehill Infant School, Luxford Road, Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 2HW. An increase in pupil enrolment has resulted in the need for additional teaching accommodation for which planning consent is being sought.

Whitehill Infant School is situated within an overall site area of approximately 22,548m².

Whitehill Infant School is a small school which has seen its admission numbers grow due to parental preferences and development in the area, as such, there is a need to provide additional teaching accommodation within the site. This additional accommodation will enable the school to arrange its year groups in a more coherent manner.

3.0 The Proposal

The proposed building shall provide an additional classroom environment, supporting the influx of new pupils to the school.

The external wall finishes shall be of an 'Essex Green' textured variety with timber 'hit and miss' boarding below floor level. Windows shall comprise white UPVC units throughout, while the doors shall be of aluminum construction with toughened glazing panels. The roof shall be of a proprietary, single layer membrane with a grey finish. Access to the proposed temporary classroom shall be via timber steps and ramp, with matching timber railings, and shall incorporate a contrasting non-slip finish to the surface. All material finishes follow a recognized standard for this type of building and help provide a building that matches the context and character of its surroundings.

The proposed temporary 'mobile' classroom building shall occupy a footprint of approximately 70m².

The proposed building is to be sited on an area of grass land adjacent to the main school building on the eastern side of the site. The piece of land chosen to receive the building is principally vacant, with it used as an outdoor play space on occasions. The school have identified this area as an ideal location as it will ensure no loss of important play space elsewhere.



Figure 2 - Aerial photograph of the school site and surrounding area. Image courtesy of Google Maps



Figure 2 – Typical Images of a temporary classroom. Proposed temporary classroom to be of similar appearance.

4.0 Justification

East Sussex County Council's Children's Services Department makes the following statement regarding the need for, and justification of, the proposed temporary 'mobile' classroom building.

For a number of years White Hill Infant School has agreed to a classroom being used by the nursery setting which runs on site. This however has meant that the school does not have the capacity to increase its pupil member's long term without impacting on the numbers that the nursery can take.

The implications of a new mobile in the first instance is to ensure that the nursery can retain the status quo on its numbers whilst allowing the school to take back the use of the classroom to accommodate the forecasted increase in pupil admission numbers. Long term this could mean an increase of 60 pupils and 2 staff.

5.0 Conclusion

The proposals would enable the school to provide adequate teaching accommodation for a rising annual intake of students, whilst maintaining the positive use of the site by their nursery team. The applicant recognizes the temporary nature of the proposed building and is seeking just a 5 year permission. Therefore, we respectfully suggest that this application be considered favorably.

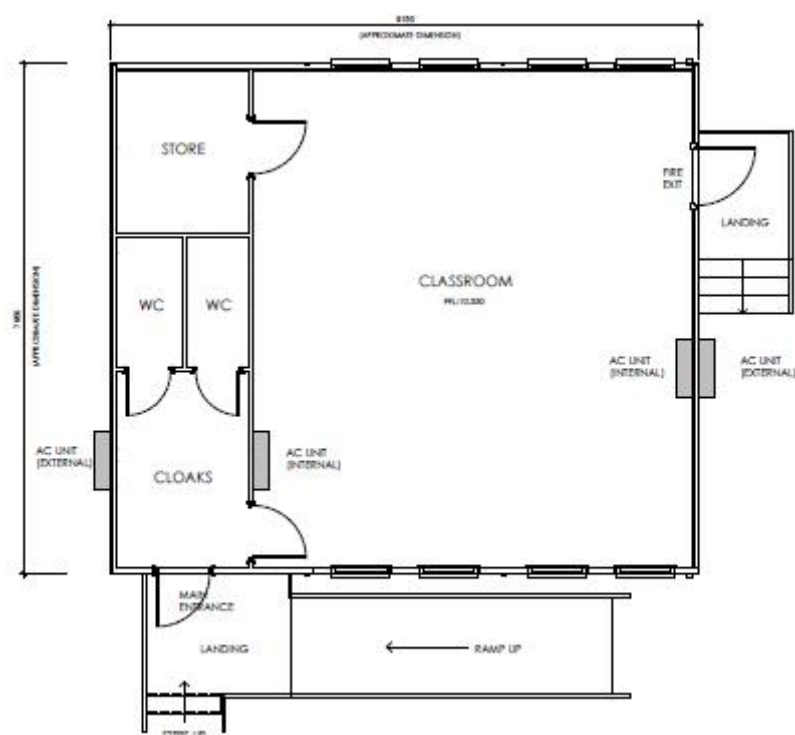


Figure 3 – Illustrative floor plan of proposed temporary 'mobile' classroom building. Extract from ERMC Ltd drawing no: 2029-D-100