

Dear Sirs,

Site: Studfall Junior School, Rowlett Road, Corby, NN17 2BT

Proposal: Application for Planning Permission for the Existing Temporary Classroom.

I write in regards to the above site and enclose herein an application for the new planning application for Studfall Junior School.

The application consists of the following, which has been submitted to the Council via the Planning Portal

- Location plan LP01
- Elevation and Floor Plans 6004C
- Design and Access Statement DA01
- Supporting Statement SS01

Studfall Junior School:

The Junior school sits in the north of Northamptonshire and its catchment area covers the settlements of Great Oakley, Oakley Vale and Corby. Studfall Junior is currently at or near its capacity in all its four year groups and has been allocated their full admission number of 112 Year 3 pupils for their new intake in September 2014.

The pupil numbers in June 2014 are as follows:

Year 3: 113
Year 4: 106
Year 5: 116
Year 6: 110

Proposal:

The existing temporary class room's planning permission has expired. The enclosed application seeks planning permission for the existing mobile for an additional five years. The school is organised into 16 classrooms and the double mobile is utilised daily to enable the school to deliver an effective curriculum. Each morning the mobile is used by Year 4 children for maths and literacy and in the afternoon as a nurture room to support children across all years, with their emotional development. The space is also in use early in the morning and at lunch time for children who require additional support and for lunchtime school clubs, including homework and craft club. The mobile therefore needs to remain on site.

The County Council currently has limited capacity to undertake building projects where mobile classrooms are on site due to significant pressures on the capital programme. There is rising demand for primary school places across the county and school expansions are underway to provide an additional 10,000 places by September 2015.

Planning Justification:

Section 38(6) of the 2004 Act requires that planning applications be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Therefore, the enclosed proposal should be judged against those relevant policies from the Corby Local Plan (1997) the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008) which is currently under review as well as the content of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) where applicable.

The Corby Local Plan Proposals Map confirms that there are no designations relating to the element of the site where the existing mobile is located. The area does not sit within a conservation area.

The NPPF sets out those roles which planning system is required to perform in order to ensure the delivery of sustainable development. The application contained herein will enable the improvement of the education offer in Northamptonshire and will ensure that the school remains an attractive option to parents who are considering the educational needs of their children. The proposal is clearly in line with the Core Planning Principles set out at Para 17 of the Framework. The Government attaches great importance to ensuring that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing communities. In addition, Para 72 of the framework encourages local planning authorities to take a pro-active, positive and collaborative approach to widening the choice of education. Para 72 also requires LPA's to afford great weight to the need to expand, create or alter schools, the enclosed application is therefore in conformity with the Government's planning and education objectives.

The proposal will improve the education offer for the aforementioned settlements from which the Junior school draws its pupils. This is in line with the vision and objectives of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

To supplement the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, the respective local authorities have published a Sustainable Design SPD (2009). Whilst the content of this document has been carefully considered through the design of this proposal and it is considered that the existing mobile will clearly not change the amenity enjoyed by those properties which neighbour the site.

The materials, as specified on the enclosed plans, have been carefully considered in the context of the site.

Conclusion:

The Junior school is a key piece of local infrastructure which needs to remain an attractive place for parents to send their children in their formative years. It is clearly important that the school's facilities meet today's modern educational requirements and provide a safe and attractive learning environment for pupils and teachers alike.

It is therefore considered that the enclosed application, which conforms to both national and local planning policy, should be seen favourably and approved without delay in line with the presumption as set out at Para 14 of the Framework.

I trust that the above sufficiently justifies the enclosed planning application and provides the information required to deliver a positive decision.

Should you wish to discuss the above or have any questions in relation to the enclosures then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

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