Design and Access Statement to support the Planning Application for a proposed temporary single storey Portakabin Duplex building to be used as Education Accommodation at Bridgwater Primary School.

1 - Introduction

This Design and Access Statement (DAS) accompanies an application for the installation of a temporary Portakabin Duplex building to be used as Education Accommodation at Bridgwater Primary School, Bridgwater Drive, Abington Vale, Northampton, NN3 3AF. The building is to be hired from Portakabin Limited for a period of five years. The DAS has been written to meet the requirements as set out in DCLG Circular 01/2006: Guidance on Changes to the Development Control System: Section 3. This Portakabin building was chosen as it is a new purpose-built, robust and attractive classroom building that offers a multi-functional and stimulating environment. It is a flexible solution that can be hired for the required time and removed at the end of that period with minimal impact on the surrounding environment.

2 - Design Principles and Concepts

2.1 – Use

The proposed building will primarily be used to accommodate the Breakfast Club and After School Club. These clubs are currently run from the dedicated Year 6 classrooms as the school doesn’t presently have any Year 6 pupils. This will change in September with an influx of Year 6 children so the classrooms will be unavailable to the out of school clubs. There isn’t any other available existing space within the school that can be used so additional accommodation is required. Subject to future funding the school does have plans to extend the school and put in place a permanent build. The Portakabin building offers a temporary solution by providing the additional space until the permanent development is in place.

The building will also be used as extra classroom space during normal school hours when required and be available for other community use.

2.2 – Amount

The proposed total development area is 184.46m². An internal floor space of 177m² is provided by the Portakabin building, this meets the requirements of functional space for the out of school clubs.
2.3 – Layout

The layout has been designed for the Additional Classrooms to be in close proximity to the existing school buildings along existing pathway routes. The location allows for easy transition to other areas around the school.

2.4 – Scale

The Portakabin Duplex building is of a modular construction and has a total floor area of 184.46m². The overall size of the building is 14.9m x 12.38m with an overall height of 3.06m (see plan & elevation drawing).

2.4 – Landscaping

The Portakabin building will be sited on a grass waste area which, due to the steep bank separating it from the playing fields, has never been used. No additional landscaping is planned with this proposal.

2.5 – Appearance

The Portakabin Duplex building is prefabricated in modules at Portakabin Limited, New Lane, Huntington, York. These modules fit together to create one large building of 14.9m x 12.38m each. External walls and roof are constructed from steel faced composite panels with steel framework. The building has an external Light Grey colour scheme to fit in with most site applications.

3 – Access

3.1 – Vehicular and Transport Links

The site location is adjacent in a residential area and is in close proximity to the local transport network. Access to the building is via existing pathway routes. The proposed Portakabin building will have no impact on the current situation.

3.2 – Inclusive Access

The Portakabin buildings are for use by pupils and staff from the school and potentially other members of the general public. The building will have a ramped access coming off existing pathway.