Kettering Buccleuch Academy

Design and Access Statement
addendum

March 2011
Introduction
Subsequent to the submission of the project for full planning permission (ref. 10/0084/CCD) a number of design amendments have been made. These have occurred for a variety of reasons: client request, technical development, internal layout revision etc. None of these changes affect the overall concept or layout of the scheme, but some of them will have an effect on the appearance of the building.

Entrance
The design of the main entrance that was submitted shows a simple canopy extending from the building, supported on two columns.

Some reservations were expressed by the NNJPU regarding the entrance elevation and the different treatment of the secondary and primary entrances. The difference in scale between the entrances to the secondary and primary phases is deliberate. This strategy was led by the Academy who felt that the secondary phase entrance should be clearly more prominent, as it will act as the ‘main’ Academy entrance. It was also felt that for the smaller children a more intimate, less ‘grand’ entrance would be more welcoming and reassuring.

Since the original submission the Academy sponsor has expressed the opinion that the original proposal for the main entrance provided insufficient signaling of the main entrance and lacked impact.
A number of options were explored as to how to improve the entrance. These included a ‘wrap-around’, two-storey canopy and an ‘oriel window’ arrangement cantilevered from the upper floors.
The preference of the sponsor was for Option 4, but the design team were asked to look at further variants of the option.

Option 4a - Glazed curtain wall infill

Option 4b - Glazed curtain wall infill with opaque coloured panel

Option 4c - Glazed curtain wall infill with coloured glass panel
Option 4d - Glazed curtain wall infill with opaque metal panel

Option 4e - Glazing expressed as 'cut-outs'

Option 4f - Slot windows
**Revised entrance plan**

In the final scheme, the brickwork to the ground floor wraps into the entrance area at an angle and guides visitors towards the sliding entrance doors. It also acts as an excellent opportunity for signage.

The ‘oriel window’ is expressed as a large double-height glazed curtain wall set back from the walls that frame it by about 1m to aid shading, and using the ‘cheek’ walls to introduce a strong colour.
In response to this change externally, the internal layout has been revised, creating a double-height ICT within the extruded volume. This space, which will be highly visible from the approach to the Academy, celebrates learning and provides a more dynamic and appropriate image for the main entrance.

The revised proposal results in an area increase of approximately 40m².
**Dining/kitchen extension**

Further analysis of future dining provision and the number of students taking school meals has led us to reconsider the number of seats within the dining area. The original proposals were for 216 seats.

However the revised requirement is for approximately 300 seats. As a result it has been necessary to extend a single storey section of the dining area of approximately 82m², to the north. This revision also has a minor knock-on effect on the shape and layout of the kitchen area.

It should also be noted that an enclosed external plant area of approximately 40m² has been created adjacent to the kitchen for kitchen supply and extract plant and waste management.
Roof plant
Further technical design development has allowed the precise sizes and layout of the rooftop plant and ductwork to be established. Plant has been specified that is between 600mm and 1700mm high and has been located towards centre of the plan to minimize the visual impact. It should be noted that the building parapet is 800mm high.

Extended plant screens
Adjacent to the Art Terrace, plant is screened to reduce its visual impact both from the terrace and on the approach to the building. These screens have been extended as shown to allow them to enclose the revised plant.

Height of fume cupboard flues and heat treatment flue
Flues will be required for the fixed fume cupboards to the science labs and prep room and a single flue from the heat treatment area. These will extend 3.75m above finished roof level as shown in the elevation.
**Energy centre**

Review of the energy strategy for the Academy has resulted in improvements that have allowed the length of the original energy centre to be reduced by approximately 4m.

The orientation of the ribbed metal cladding to the energy centre has been revised from horizontal to vertical. This distinguishes it from the cladding to the main academy and reduces the apparent length of the building.