**East Hunsbury Primary School**  
*Penvale Road, Northampton, NN4 0QW*  
**Proposed reinstatement of Double Mobile Classroom**  
**Design and Access Statement**

**Design:**

| Use | This building is being used for general teaching in conjunction with the existing accommodation within the school. |
| Size | The development consists of a single storey, double classroom mobile building of approx 130m². The height is approx 3.3m. |
| Landscape | The mobile is currently sited on a large grassed area, with easy access to the main school building, but away from residential dwellings. |
| Appearance | The building is of standard single storey mobile classroom construction. The elevations are perpendicular surmounted by a low pitch roof. The roof is finished in grey felt with a small overhang, discharging rainwater into a black PVC gutter and down pipes. The height of the roof is approximately 3.3m from ground level. The walls are refinished in a stippled weatherproof coating, all painted in dark Green (12 B 25) colour. All windows have white uPVC frames and are double glazed in clear float glass. A wooden slatted skirt is fitted between ground and floor level, the slats being horizontal. |

**Access:**

The building design takes account of:-

| Approach | Within the limits of the site, the mobile has been positioned to create ease of access for all users. |
| Parking | Not applicable. |
| Entrances | Access to the site is as existing with no need for any alterations. Access is via steps and ramp to the main entrance. |
| Horizontal Circulation | The horizontal circulation within each mobile has been carefully planned to accommodate all users. |
| Vertical Circulation | Vertical circulation is not applicable as they are both single storey buildings. |
| Access to all Services | Internally the mobile has been carefully laid-out to maximise use. All facilities are logistically placed in relation to each other. |
**Emergency Egress**  The design of this mobile ensures and assists with evacuation should an emergency need occur. All travel routes have been carefully planned and emergency exit facilities provided. Evacuation planning will be recorded and regularly tested by the occupiers.

**Waste Management**  There will be minimal waste generated during the installation of the single mobile. Each contractor will be responsible for removing their own waste to a licensed tip.

Linda Franklin  
Northamptonshire County Council  
Property Asset Management  
July 2012

Ref DA/01
Northamptonshire, like all other areas of the country is having to deal with the largest numbers of Primary age pupils entering the education system since the 1970’s. There is a national growth in the birth rate that has now impacted on schools. As recently as last week a national newspaper ran a ‘two page spread’ on the crisis, as it referred to it (see link below). In other areas of the country 4 and 5 year olds are having to be bussed to schools with capacity. In the main, for obvious reasons, we have avoided this. In Northamptonshire the problem is compounded by being a growth county and through in-migration. We, like other areas are having to look at contingencies that may include using buildings other than schools. However, we are not there yet and are managing the situation. This has involved extensions to schools and the deployment of mobiles. The Northampton town centre area is that with the greatest pressure.

We are building new schools to accommodate new developments. These are funded through Section 106 funding and NCC funding. Where it is possible, and we have time, we are building extensions to schools. Some of the growth has been predicted, however some, for example that from in-migration is less predictable and there is a need to respond quickly. We are currently working with the largest number of ‘in year’ admissions that we have ever had. From 50 a month, several years ago, we now have more than 200 per week at some times.

In relation to Northampton, the town has seen a rise in demand for reception and Year 1-2 places over the past 3 years. See table below.
We are currently looking at permanent solutions to include extensions to the following local schools:

- Earl Spencer
- Castle
- Kings Heath
- Weston Favell
- Sunnyside
- Standens Barn
- Hunsbury Primary -reverting to 2 FE
- Briar Hill
- The Abbey
- Ecton Brook
- Upton
- Cogenhoe
- Hopping Hill remaining as 2FE
- Possibly Kingsthorpe

Other temporary solutions have been found at Queen Eleanor by extending for 2 years into existing accommodation. We are also looking at the use of alternative buildings as either standalone schools or annexes to existing schools.

This existing double mobile classroom was originally located at East Hunsbury Primary School in 2002 as part of the Northamptonshire education restructure programme, which changed from a 3 to a 2-tier system. It enabled the school to develop their increased emphasis on group work, nurture rooms and family support workers, and to facilitate the additional agenda for schools to provide “wrap-around” care in the form of Breakfast and After-School clubs. These are essential services to support the educational aspects of the school and working patterns of parents, therefore supporting the county. Planning consent has lapsed for this mobile classroom, but it is still required as a necessary part of the school provision.

It is expected that extensions at other schools will take the strain of the bulge in the medium term. Longer term, the bulge is expected to fall back to a smaller number. When these bulge year groups work through the school, the mobiles can be removed from the site. Therefore, I apply for the reinstatement of planning consent for this mobile classroom for 5 years.

Linda Franklin
NCC Property Asset Management
July 2012
Ref SS/01

Two links to recent newspaper articles about the problem


http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9138541/Warning-over-acute-shortage-of-primary-school-places.html