Planning Statement: mobile classrooms for Earl Spencer Primary

**Streetfield Road, Northampton, NN5 7DE**

Planning permission is being sought for a double mobile classroom unit to be installed at Earl Spencer Primary School to provide additional classroom capacity. This is on a temporary basis until a permanent extension has been built. This is related to planning application 13 / 00031 / CCDFUL that has been validated and is currently at the consultation stage.

The building works for Earl Spencer are part of the “PFI Wave 2” contract variation that is currently being negotiated for extensions at 11 Northampton primary schools. The PFI process is complex, involves lender approval from 11 global banks, and therefore has a timescale that is not in the Council’s control. The aim is to achieve contract signature later this year with a start of construction scheduled for early in 2014. The statutory process related to expanding the school numbers was completed in September 2012 with Cabinet approval for the expansion.

The rising demand for primary school places across Northampton town has been well documented and the increase to two forms of entry was implemented at Earl Spencer from September 2012 when they were able to accommodate an intake of 60 Reception children in their existing accommodation. Additional classroom space is required for September 2013 to accommodate a further rise in numbers at the school prior to the permanent extension being built. A double mobile is being provided as a contingency measure to cater for further pressures in September 2014.

The current (31 May 2013) pupil numbers at the school are as follows and the table demonstrates how the school grows each year with the requirement for an extra classroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers May ‘13</th>
<th>September 2013</th>
<th>September 2014</th>
<th>September 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No classrooms</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The admission process for the September 2013 intake into reception is currently underway and late applications will be processed throughout the summer. To date (31 May 2013), 55 Reception children have been awarded places at the school. Of these, 22 are siblings, 13 are the in the category of this school being the closest and there are 20 others who have expressed Earl Spencer as a preference. The number in the first two categories exceeds 30, which also indicates that a single form of entry at this school is not meeting demand. The double mobile classroom is therefore essential as an interim measure until building works are complete; the mobile will then be removed from site.
Design and Access Statement for Proposed Mobile Double Classroom at Earl Spencer Primary School Streatfield Road, Northampton, NN5 7DE

Design:

Use
The building will be used for general teaching in conjunction with the existing accommodation within the school.

Size
The proposed development consists of a single storey double classroom mobile building of approx 146m². The height is approx 3.3m.

Layout
The layout of the site is as existing, and therefore has been somewhat predetermined.

Landscape
The mobile will be sited parallel to the school entrance, on the edge of the main playground, which is clear of trees and shrubs.

Appearance
The proposed 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 to the mobile will be via steps and ramp to the main entrance.

Location  The mobile has been sited on the edge of the main play ground, facing the school entrance. This is to provide good access to non-classroom facilities such as the school hall and library. Although part of the main playground will be unavailable, the school has a second play area at the lower end of the main one, well away from the mobile.

Horizontal & Vertical Circulation

The horizontal circulation within the mobile has been carefully planned to accommodate all users. Vertical circulation is not applicable for this single storey building.

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 the mobile will ensure and assist 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 mobile. Each contractor will be responsible for removing their own waste to a licensed tip.

Strategic Project Delivery Team
LGSS Property Services
Northamptonshire County Council
June 2013

DA01