Duston Eldean Primary School

Playgroup Mobile Classroom
Supporting Statement

Address:
Main Road
New Duston
Northampton
NN5 6PP

Reason for development:
Northamptonshire County Council has committed to the Government’s agenda of Extended School Use. Part of the Extended School Use agenda is to provide facilities for children of pre school age in addition to before and after school care. In adopting the agenda, many schools in the County have facilitated the provision of pre school care on their site.

As part of the Northampton Review of Schools, and public consultations, the community was assured that all efforts would be made to ensure that no existing playgroup had to be discontinued as a result of any change in school premises.

The Playgroup was previously accommodated at the Duston Eldean site. Due to a new school being built on the site the preschool moved into temporary accommodation on the old Rylands Middle School site in Prestbury Road along with the primary school. The intention is to move back to the original site in Main Road once building works are complete. The preschool is the only facility of its type in the area and it is important to the users of the preschool and the community that the provision continues.

Unfortunately, funding cannot be made available, either via PFI or the County Council’s capital funding sources, to provide a permanent building for playgroups. The Preschool Management team have also explored all areas to try and identify funding for a permanent build but without any success. However, it has been possible to secure sufficient funding to provide a mobile for playgroups that may be forced to close by the changes resulting from building work as part of the PFI contract.

At Duston Eldean Primary School the mobile would remain in the ownership of the County Council but would be leased to the preschool who would take full financial responsibility for the building.

The school governors are fully supportive to allow a mobile to be placed on site for use by the preschool. This would ensure the provision continues and the close links with the community are maintained.
Proposed site:

The proposed site is currently a grass area with little amenity value to the school. The proposal to place a mobile in this location will not prohibit any school activities.

Staffing implications:

The staffing at the existing preschool consists of 5-6 staff at each session. As the provision is for either a morning or an afternoon session, the maximum number of staff at any time will be six. There will be no need to increase the staffing levels at the new premises.
The times that the preschool operates are coordinated to avoid the times that are crucial to the school. These arrangements will continue at the new site and any alteration in times would be agreed with the school in order to ensure a coordinated approach that minimises the number of people arriving at the site at any one time.

Statement of Community Involvement / Consultation:

The application is to return the existing preschool to the original site when the primary school moves into the new school buildings currently being constructed. The preschool has been operating on the Duston Eldean site for many years and is used by parents living in the surrounding neighbourhood. At public meetings and consultations on the Northampton schools review there was a clear expectation from people attending that the preschool would be able to continue.

Demolitions:

No demolitions are required on site prior to the installation of the mobile

Trees:

No trees need to be felled.

Access:

Both vehicular and pedestrian access to the site will be via the existing school access. Ramped access to the mobile will be provided to the main entrance and the fire exits to comply with DDA legislation

Car parking:

Some staff live locally and do not bring a vehicle to work others make alternative arrangements for parking off site. This practice would continue.
Services implications:
All necessary mains statutory services are provided for the school. Connections for the mobile services will be within the main school site

Waste management:
There will be minimal waste generated during installation of the mobile. Each contractor working on the project will be responsible for disposing of any waste generated by them to a licensed tip.

Ian Shanks
Buildings & Capital Development
Children & Young People's Service

June 28th 2008
Duston Eldean Primary School

Proposed Mobile Building

Design and Access Statement

**Design:**

**Use**

The building will be used by the Duston Eldean Playgroup

**Size**

The proposed development consists of a single storey mobile building of approx 127m². The height is approx 3m.

**Layout**

The layout of the site is as existing, and therefore has been somewhat predetermined. The most practical area within the school site is the grass area that has been identified. This location will ensure that the school and playgroup can operate alongside each other without any inconvenience to each other.

**Landscape**

The mobile will be sited on part of the grass area adjacent to the school buildings. The landscape of the site will remain the same other than the immediate footprint of the mobile. All services will be connected to the mobile by underground means, thus having no visual impact.

**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 ridge is approximately 3m from ground level. The walls are refinshed 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. Specific access to the mobile will be via a ramped pathway ensuring that the building complies with the Disability Discrimination Act requirements and Part M of the Building Regulations.

**Horizontal and Vertical circulation** The horizontal circulation within the mobile has been carefully planned to accommodate all users regardless of disability. 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.

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Ian Shanks  
Northamptonshire County Council  
Children and Young Peoples Service – Buildings and Capital Development  
June 2008  
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