
Full Plans Application Design and Access Statement

The application relates to proposed works at

North Huddersfield Trust School
1 Woodhouse Hall Road,
Huddersfield
HD2 1DJ

Introduction

This statement has been written to support the information submitted as part of the full plans application submission for the construction of;
A new 5 classroom teaching block with associated departmental office, student toilets and ancillary areas,



Fig 1: An aerial photo of the site taken from the South – Courtesy Google Earth Pro.

Background and Need

North Huddersfield Trust School is a coeducational secondary school situated outside Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.

The school was opened in 2011 with 360 students, and after a steady growth rate now has (as of September 2021) a student population of 900 pupils.

The school has been chosen to provide additional pupil places and as a result there is the requirement to provide an additional 5no. classrooms with associated toilet and staff departmental provisions to accommodate the increase.

The site is located in a residential area between Fartown and Sheepridge, approximately 2.5km north of Huddersfield, and has a generous area of playing fields attached.

Prior to the North Huddersfield Trust School opening in 2011, the site was formally known as Fartown High School. This school was originally built between 1969 and 1975 and was extended over the years to form the current buildings on site. Before the high school was built, the site was an open grassed land.

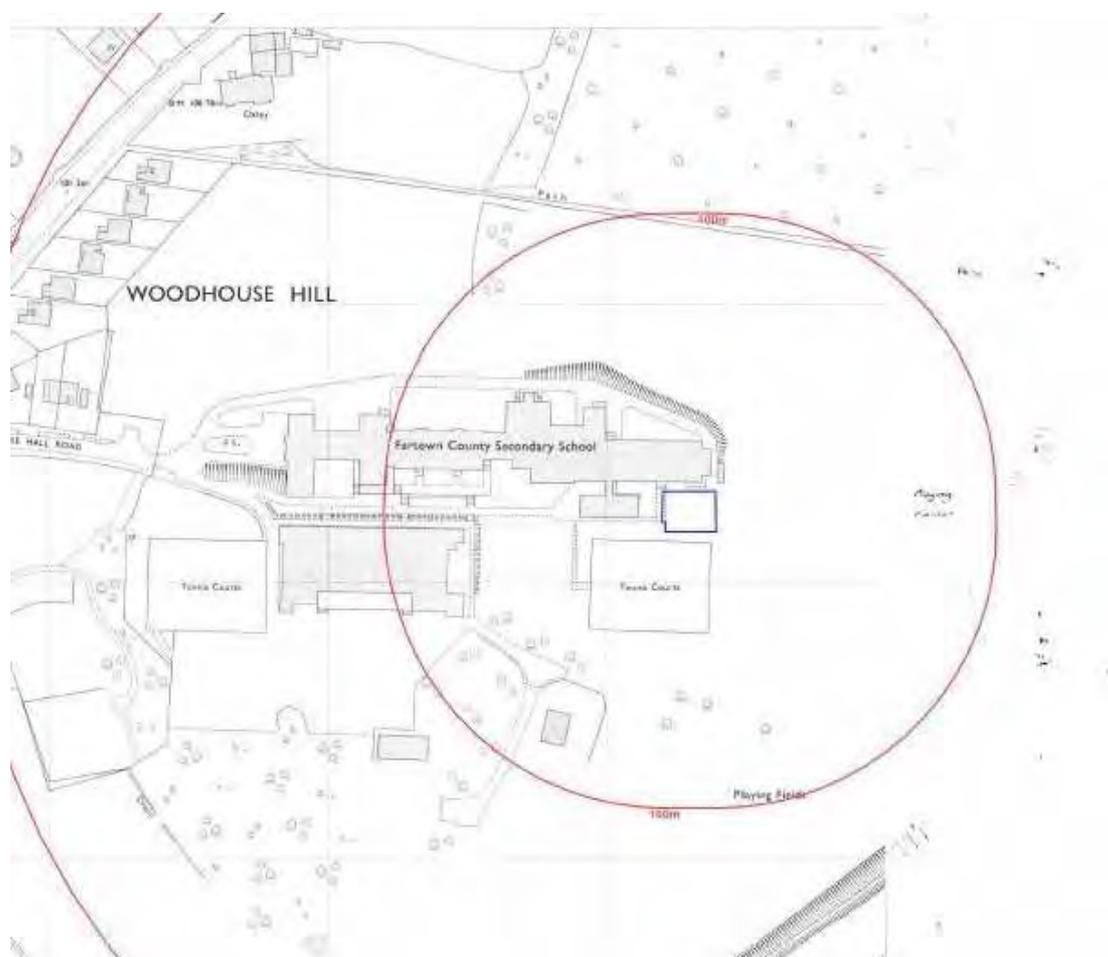


Fig 2 - Extract – Groundsource Insights – 1970-75

This year, as a result of local increase in population and demand for further Secondary School places there has been a review of Estates from the Local Authority with the resulting need to provide a solution to find a further 150 pupil places at a local High School. North Huddersfield trust School has been chosen as the school to provide these additional pupil places and as a result there is the requirement to expand the schools teaching and pupil

facilities. As a result of the increased numbers the provision of a new 5no. classroom block with departmental staff facilities and associated toilet facilities are required to be provided.

The scheme has been deemed a high priority scheme by the Local Authority and has been indicatively programmed for delivery required by summer 2024.

Existing Site and Surroundings

North Huddersfield Trust School is located in a residential area between Fartown and Sheepridge, approximately 2.5km north of Huddersfield, and has a generous area of playing fields attached.

The proposed site area is currently a grassed banking area with paved footpaths between the existing buildings and playground area to the south.

There are a number of trees to the east side of the proposed site, however these will not be affected by the position of the new building.

The external appearance of the overlooking existing buildings is predominantly red brick masonry walling with large windows incorporating decorative coloured panels underneath and a 'decorative' concrete ring-beam which appears to line through with the internal floor level. The roof construction is generally flat roof systems with (an assumed) bituminous upper layer and painted timber fascia's.

Natural light and ventilation to the existing building classrooms along the North of the proposed site area will not be impacted with the new build due to its proposed level and being dug into the banking with the ground floor level with the south playground area. A new access footpath will allow access around the new building and into the existing buildings retaining the playground access.



Fig 3: Proposed Site – Courtesy Google Earth Pro.

None of the Trusts School buildings are Listed and are not located in a Conservation Area.

Proposed Works



Fig 4: Proposed Classroom Building - See drawing PL06



Fig 5: Proposed Classroom Building - See drawing PL06

The proposed area of work sits to the east of the existing grounds on a currently unused grassed banking, surrounded to the north and west by existing classroom buildings, to the south by the large main playground area and to the east with some large trees and playing fields.

Due to the steep banking and the heights of the existing 4 storey classroom block to the north, the proposed new teaching block will be dug into the ground with level access being provided to each floor of the new building.

The location and position of the new building has also been considered to minimise the impact on the existing school and the surrounding areas. But also, to maximise the natural south facing daylight.

There is no loss of any sports and recreation space.

Externally, the building finishes will be constructed using traditional brick / block cavity wall construction methods with red facing brick and rendered finished elevations similar to the existing buildings. The design intention of the external appearance of the proposed building is illustrated both above (Proposed 3d images) and below (proposed elevations).



Fig 6: Proposed Elevations of the new classroom building - See drawing PL06

In order to boost the new buildings Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment, we are proposing to incorporate a sustainable green roofing system which will not only provide green space lost by the new development, but also to provide a sustainable drainage system to limit the water run off rates from the new roof into the existing drainage system.

Impact of the Proposal on its Surroundings

As the proposed site area is within the middle of the overall school site, and due to the position of the school in its local surroundings, the proposed new building will not be visible from the site boundary or by the neighbouring properties.

The proposal of red facing brick and render for the elevations and white aluminum windows and doors will allow the new proposals to complement the style of the existing buildings whilst also providing a new modern building on the site.

The proposed new building is to be dug in and sat within the sloping ground, none of the natural light or views out of the overlooking existing buildings will be affected by this new build.

Accessibility

The new building will be fully accessible to all. The building will be dug into the banked site providing level access to each of the 2 floors. An internal staircase will provide internal access between each floor.

Accessible toilets have also been provided to each floor along with full height unisex toilet provisions.

Reduction of Car Parking

The construction of the new building will not affect any existing parking numbers on site.

Security

To ensure the proposed new building is kept secure at all times, CCTV cameras (internally and externally) will be installed to enable surveillance of entrances and exits.

Access control measures are to be incorporated to prevent unauthorised access into the new building

All new doors and windows will be designed to meet the minimum standards set out in the employer's requirements for school projects Part A and where possible and practicable. All glazing is required to meet EN ISO 1253 standards

External lighting will also be installed to prevent any dark areas to the building reducing the risk for hidden intruders.

Radon

The School is located in an area with a radon potential of >1% classed as no risk in accordance with the below map. Appended to this full plans submission is the full Phase 1 Geotechnical Desk Study Report which covers the radon risk assessment in greater detail.

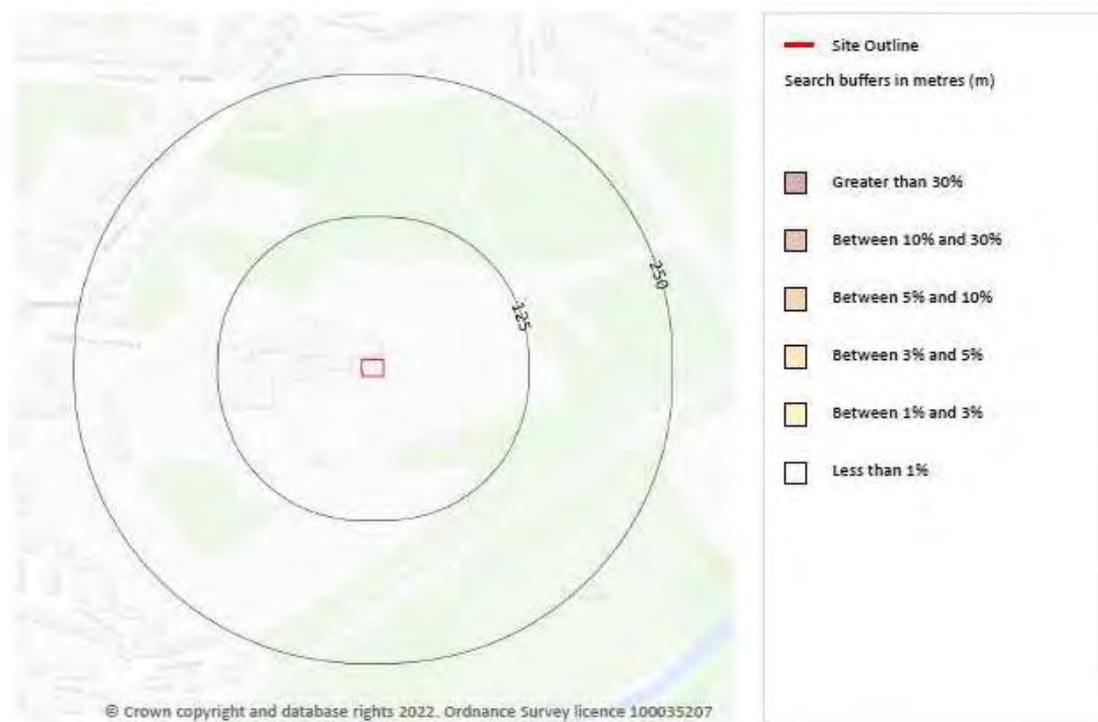


Fig 7: RGS Geotechnical Desk Study

Flood Risk

As can be seen from the below extract, the site is located in Flood Zone 1 in accordance with the Government's Flood Maps for Planning website (<https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/>). Appended to this full plans submission is the full Phase 1 Geotechnical Desk Study which covers the flood risk assessment in greater detail.

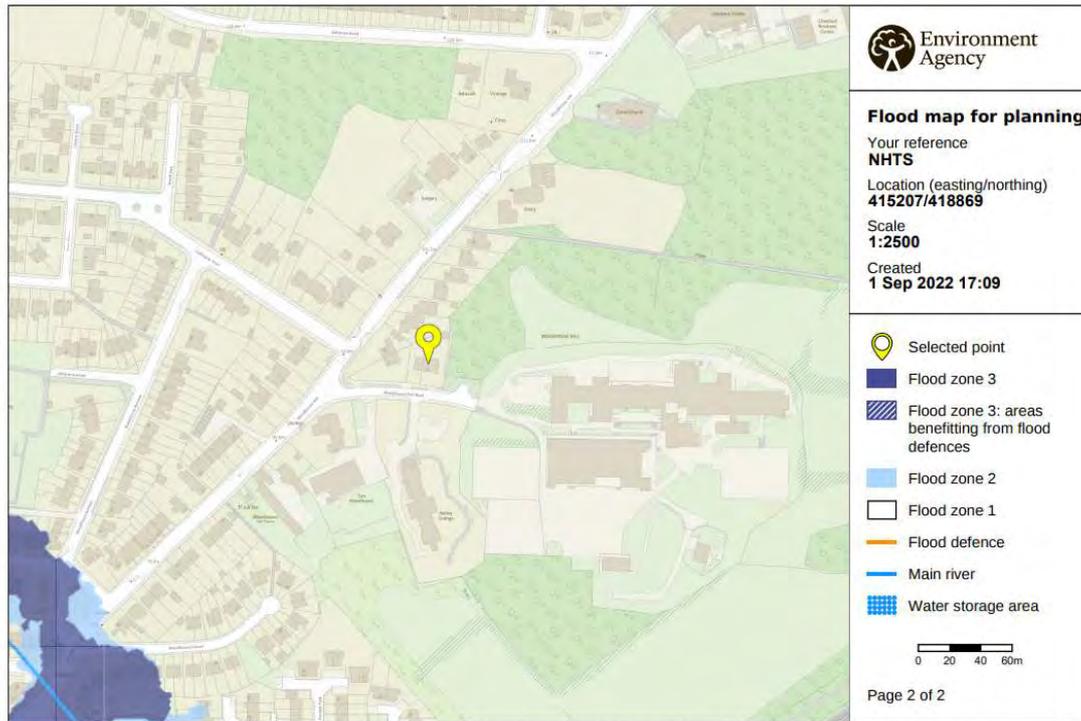


Fig 8: Flood Risk

Historic Site Use

The below extract map from 1959-60 indicates there was no previous use of the site until the construction of the former high school between 1969 and 1975. Appended to this full plans submission is the full Phase 1 Geotechnical Desk Study which covers the historic site use in greater detail.



Fig 9: Historic Map

Tree Preservation Orders

There are no tree preservation orders in place for trees within the site, however due to the size and proximity of the existing trees, we are not suggesting the removal of any of the adjacent trees as part of our proposed works. The new building has been sited to avoid the existing trees.

Appended to this full plans submission is the Arboricultural Report Study which covers the existing trees in greater detail.

Drainage Strategy

In accordance with Kirklees Council guidelines a drainage strategy drawing for the proposed works has been provided within the application package.

Pre-Application Advice

A pre-planning application has been submitted to aid in the full plans application. At the time of this submission, the only comments received on the application have been from the Crime Prevention Officer and Counter Terrorism Security Adviser and Highways. No further information or comments has been received from the planning department.

Site Photos

Below are a number of site photos to assist with the full plans submission and provide further context for the application.



Fig 8: Existing school playground & Overlooking adjacent trees



Fig 9: Proposed site area



Fig 10: View from playground towards proposed site area



Fig 11: Site area from top of banking



Fig 12: Site area from top of banking looking over the playground