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Design and Access Statement HWK01-E3C-XX-ZZZ-RP-A-002-A4-P01

for

External Lighting and Signage Works

at

Heckmondwike Grammar School, Heckmondwike

March 2025

1.0 INTRODUCTION

E3 Cube Ltd, acting on behalf of Heckmondwike Grammar School, has prepared this Design and Access Statement to support an application for the Heckmondwike Grammar School External Lighting and Signage Design.

Heckmondwike Grammar School, located on High St, Heckmondwike WF16 0AH. The site is situated outside any Conservation Area or Heritage Site.

The statement presents justification for the proposed external lighting design to demonstrate accordance with the local planning authority's Local Development Framework and Supplementary Planning Documents, as well as the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Building Regulations, Building Bulletins, Equality Act, and other details submitted as part of this application.

Type of Application: Full Planning approval and advertisement consent

The Applicant: Heckmondwike Grammar School Academy Trust

1.1 Application Summary

Heckmondwike Grammar School is a standalone outstanding convertor academy, having been one of the first 32 outstanding schools to convert and open on the first day possible under the Academies Act 2010. Today, Heckmondwike Grammar School is a dynamic secondary school serving students between the ages of 11 and 18, prides itself on outstanding academic accomplishments, and holds distinction as one of the country's top 100 selective secondary schools.

REF: https://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/school/company/

The proposed scheme concerns improvement of the external lighting around the main entrance, and the pedestrian approach to the reception area. The scope of work also includes illuminated signage to the front of the Powell Building second floor extension. Planning approval for the Second-Floor extension REF to 2024/62/91055/E.

The aim of the proposed scheme is to improve the illumination of the school pathway lading towards the main entrance, creating more welcoming environment for students, staff, and visitors, especially during evening hours. Beyond its practical benefits, the design of the lighting and signage has been carefully considered to harmonise with the architectural style of the building, adding a modern and visually appealing element. This proposal seeks to elevate the school's aesthetic appeal, reinforcing its identity and presence in the community.

2.0 CONTEXT

2.1 Application Site

Heckmondwike Grammar School is situated in the High St, Heckmondwike, WF16 0AH



Google Map Arial View

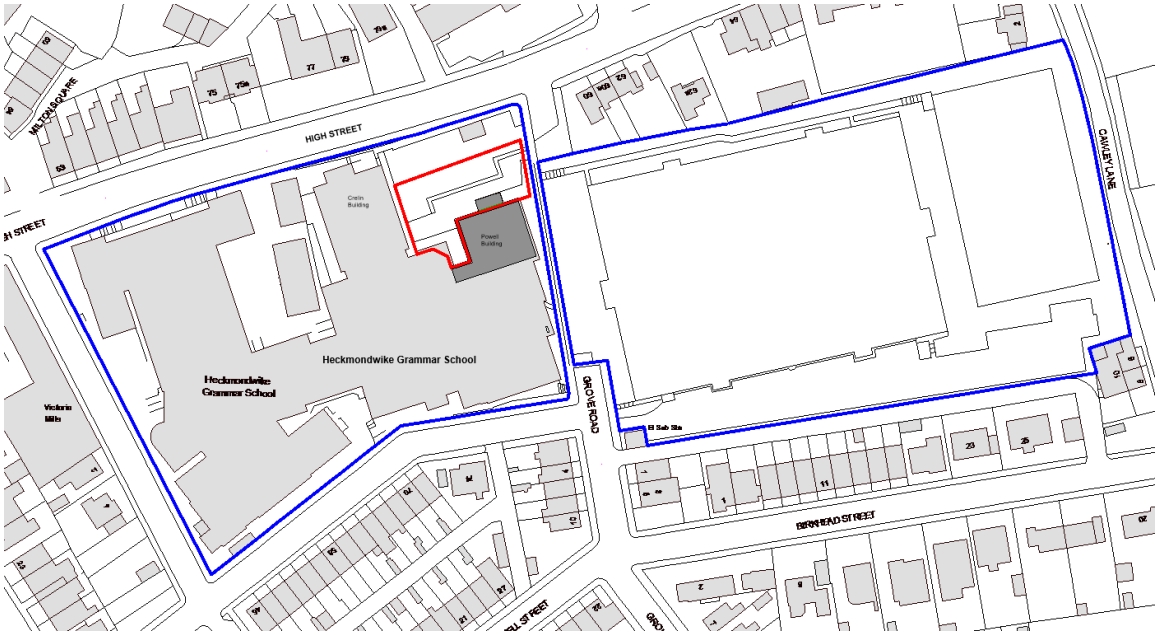
- The north edge of the Powell building is set back from the High Street. The built area consists of mainly terraced and detached two-story dwellings, industrial and commercial buildings. The existing teaching block building designated for extension is positioned away from the road to prevent any overlooking of adjacent properties across the street and is screened with trees. The residential properties opposite the road are also situated at a distance from the street, facing the High Street with the gardens.

- To the south of the school, there are predominantly single and two-story dwellings.

- The mixed-use area is to the west of the school and consists of terraced two-storey dwellings, and industrial and commercial buildings.

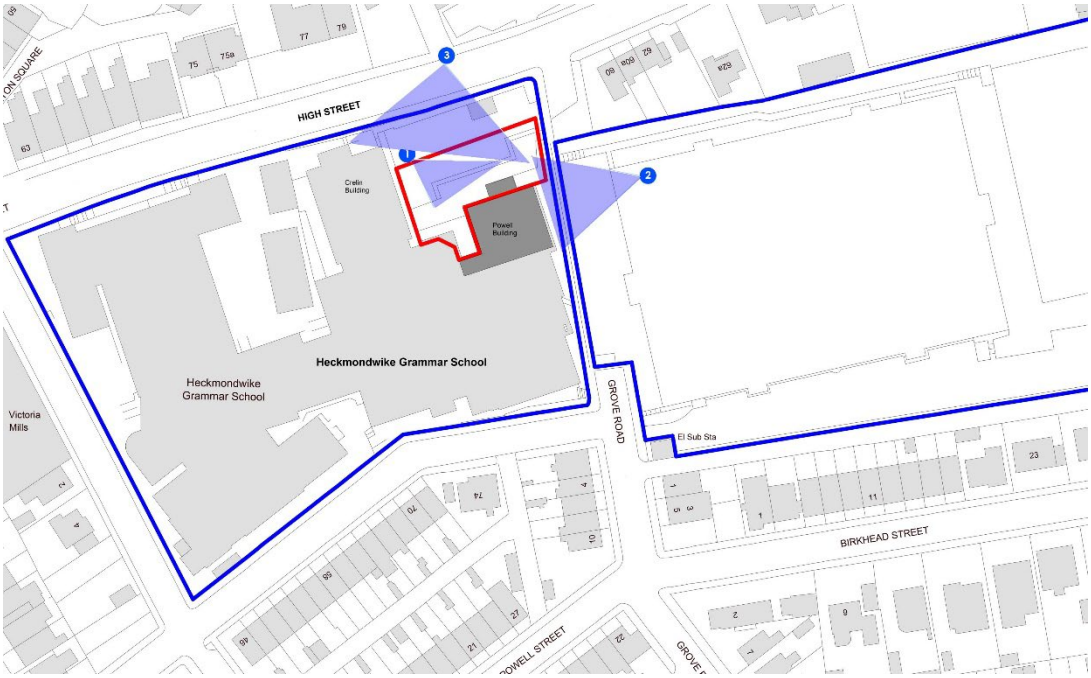
- Large, single, and two-storey houses with spacious gardens and school sports pitch are situated to the east of the school.

The proposed scope of work is limited to the school curtilage area and is marked with a redline boundary in the diagram provided below.



Site Location Plan. REF: HWK01-E3C-04-00G-DR-A-002-A3

2.1 Surrounding Context and Existing Site Photographs



Photographic positioning key plan



View 1



View 2



View 3

3.0 DESIGN STATEMENT

The Heckmondwike Grammar School Second-floor extension project is currently at the construction stage and as part of the scheme, the external lighting design has been reviewed. Planning approval for the Second-Floor extension REF to 2024/62/91055/E

The school expressed concern about the existing external lighting provision to the main entrance area and the lighting designer was involved in the scheme to conduct the survey. The results of the survey highlighted several issues with the existing external lighting fittings:

The entrance reception area is lit by 2x 2D 16W bulkhead luminaires and an 8W emergency bulkhead luminaire, both of which use outdated and inefficient technologies. The current external lighting is identified as inadequate for a reception entrance, creating a dull appearance.

The proposed new luminaires for the underside of the canopy and LED bollards are a modern, more efficient solution. They will address both functional and aesthetic deficiencies, improving the overall site experience. The recommended updates will ensure a more sustainable, effective, and visually appealing lighting system for the school, whilst achieving an enhanced safety on site.

The Lighting Assessment as Proposed has been developed and submitted as part of the current application. REF: LUC 25-007-1C and LUC 25-007-1B.

3.1 Proposed Scope of Work

The proposed works concerned such areas:

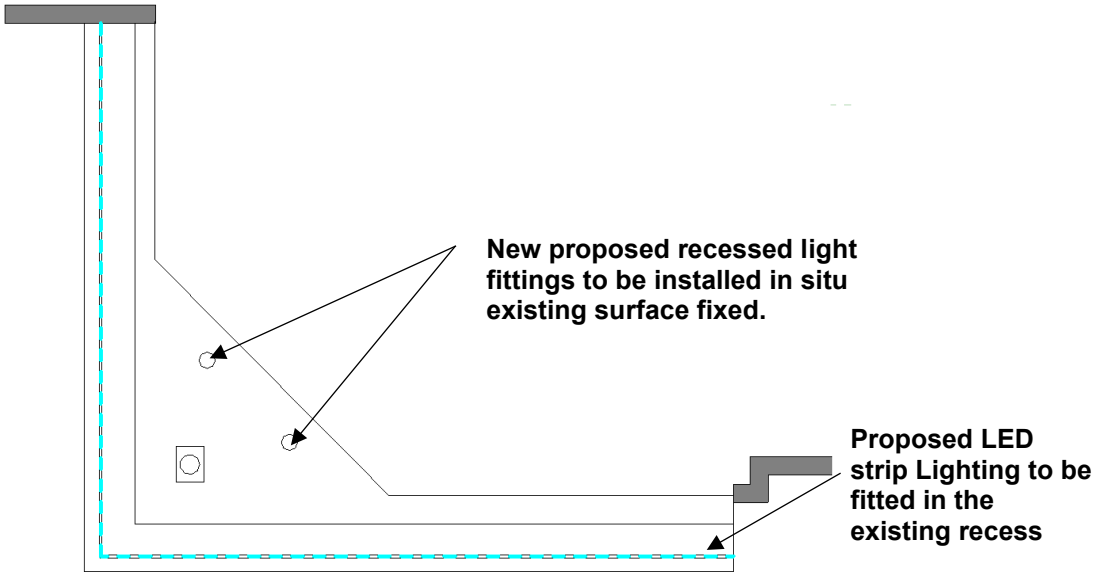
- Improvement of the existing lighting to the underside of the main entrance canopy.
- Improvement of the lighting to the pathway from the reception area gate to the main entrance.
- Backlit signage to the new Second-floor extension.

3.3. Reception Canopy Lighting. Existing/demolition and proposed works

The scheme also involves replacing the three existing light fittings beneath the entrance canopy with two recessed light fittings featuring integrated emergency lighting, providing a more streamlined and seamless aesthetic. Lighting hours of operation are proposed 06:00 – 08:00 and 15:00 - 21:30 daily, and 15:00 – 22:30 summertime or special occasion/event.



Existing canopy soffit and surface fixed light fittings.



The decorative LED continuous strip lighting is also proposed to be fixed in the existing canopy bullnose recess. That will enhance the main entrance appearance during the dark hours. This is considered as decorative lighting; it has been omitted from the lighting assessment.

Lighting proposed to be photocell controlled, time clock, and with manual override controls to the canopy recessed channel lighting have been incorporated allowing the School to control the lighting during the day hours.

3.4. Signage. Proposed works

Signage works for the Powell Building are proposed to follow the construction of the new second-story extension. The proposed building with the second-floor extension is shown on the image below. **NOTE:** Planning approval for the Second-Floor extension REF to 2024/62/91055/E

With the addition of the second story, the Powell Building will be of approx. the same height as the Crellin Building, making its front elevation a key feature in the School's connection to the main road, High Street. The prominence of this elevation highlights its suitability for the installation of School signage, enhancing the institution's visibility and promoting its image.



Proposed Extension to the Powell Building without Signage

As the elevation is stepped back from the main road and the Crellin Building, the signage will be subtly illuminated by backlighting through LEDs, ensuring the benefits of the signage are maximised.



Proposed Extension to the Powell Building with Signage

The signage is proposed to be manufactured by the same company that has previously produced the school signage- Fastsigns, using the same materials, sizes, and colours. This approach generates a signage solution in keeping with the existing design used for the Creling building.

The signage lighting brightness is proposed to be controlled via a dimmer on the remote control, photocell controlled, timeclock override and manual override.

Specification described in the planning application form.

Lighting hours of operation are proposed 06:00 – 08:00, 15:00 - 21:30 daily and 15:00 – 22:30 summertime or special occasion/event.

As the illumination of the signage is to be **decorative lighting**, it has been omitted from the lighting assessment. The illumination will be produced by LEDs, offering a solution that is sensitive to the environment in which it sits.

3.5 Proposed Works: LED Bollards

The LED bollards have been integrated as an enhancement of the existing lighting strategy. Distributed from the main entrance gate, leading up to the reception canopy, the illuminated bollards offer a discrete solution to create a more welcoming environment, whilst improving the aesthetic value and experience of the approach to the school reception in dark times.

The proposed LED bollards will match the existing traffic bollards in height and finish. For location, refer to HWK01-E3C-20-00G-DR-A-001-A3.



LED bollard luminaires – DW Windsor.



Proposed illuminated bollard location.

4.0 SUMMARY

The proposed external lighting works at the Grammar School encompass key enhancements to the lighting strategy to promote the school and improve aesthetic appeal.
These comprehensive improvements aim to modernise the Grammar School, making it more accessible and welcoming to all users while preserving and enhancing its aesthetic appeal and promoting the School's ethos.

5.0 INFORMATION SUBMITTED FOR PLANNING APPLICATION COMPRISES:

Architectural drawings	
HWK01-E3C-04-00G-DR-A-002-A3	Site Location Plan
HWK01-E3C-05-ZZZ-DR-A-002-A3	Site Plan as Existing
HWK01-E3C-13-ZZZ-DR-A-002-A3	External Lighting to the Reception Canopy Existing and Demolition
HWK01-E3C-20-00G-DR-A-001-A3	Proposed External LED Bollards Location Plan
HWK01-E3C-20-ELZ-DR-A-001-A3	Powell Building Proposed Signage
HWK01-E3C-20-ZZZ-DR-A-003-A3	External Lighting to the Reception Canopy - Proposed
LUC-25-007-1C	New LED Bollards lighting Assessment
LUC-25-007-1B	New recessed Light fittings to the underside of the canopy, Lighting Assessment

The information produced and demonstrated on the drawings and the assessment provides a response to the Kirklees Planning Validation Requirements:

- *The proposed level of maintained average horizontal illuminance for the site with reference to guidance documents to demonstrate that the levels of illuminance are appropriate for the intended use.* - identified in the Lighting Assessment

- *The predicted vertical illuminance that will be caused by lighting when measured at the windows of nearby properties to demonstrate that it will not be excessive.* - identified in the Lighting Assessment

- *The specification of the luminaires, including their number and location, column height, the type and rating of the lamps, the design of lamp housing and proposals to minimise or eliminate glare from the use of the lighting installation, to include a light spill plan*. – identified in the Lighting Assessment

- *The proposed hours of operation of the lighting* – Lighting hours of operation are proposed 06:00 - 08:00, 15:00 - 21:30 daily, and 15:00 – 22:30 summertime or special occasion/event.

For external Illuminated adverts:

The type and location of any luminaires and information (manufacturer specification) to demonstrate that these will not cause glare at nearby light-sensitive premises or to drivers on nearby highways and nearby pedestrians (the level of information should be

- The dimensions of each advertisement that is to be illuminated: dimensions to match the existing installed on the Creling building. REF: HWK01-E3C-20-ELZ-DR-A-001-A3-P01

- The level of luminance (in cd/m2) of the advertisement: 600cd/ m2

- The times of day when the illumination will be operated - 06:00- 08:00; 15:00 - 9:30 daily, and 15:00 – 22:30 summertime or special occasion/event. LED halo on dimmer remote control, timeclock override, photocell controlled, and manual override.

The information produced and demonstrated on the drawings and the assessment proves compliance with NFFP:

- *Paragraph 92 (b) - Safe and Accessible Environments:* The implementation of LED bollards and reception lighting uses enhanced visibility which reduces crime and fear of crime.

- *Paragraph 110 - Safe and Suitable Access for All:* The implementation of external lighting improves visibility around a key access route to the site, reducing the risk of trip hazards and improving access for all.

- *Paragraph 130 (f) - Design Quality and Safety:* The introduction of LED bollards and external lighting creates well-lit pathways, improving personal security.

- *Paragraph 185 - Limiting Light Pollution while ensuring Safety:* Specifications have been carefully selected to provide LED, directional light, mitigating the risk of light spill and pollution.