



I am writing in support of the application for the much needed and long overdue redevelopment of Gomersal St Marys C of E First & Nursery School, Shirley Avenue, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, BD19 4NA in my Spen Valley constituency as per planning application 2026/62/90937/E.

I have visited St Mary's on a number of occasions during my time as an MP, and, having lived in Gomersal for over ten years, I know the important role it plays in Gomersal and the wider community.

The pupils and staff at Gomersal St Mary's deserve to attend or work in an environment that is inspiring and I believe these proposals offer an amazing opportunity to replace outdated school facilities with new school premises that will fully meet the needs of the pupils and staff going forward, transforming the learning environment.

There are huge benefits to having such an inspiring design with the enhanced and varied areas for outdoor activities for learning, play and sport, including health and wellbeing of both pupils and staff, in addition to the potential to support children achieving their full potential.

I understand that the design, using the site's gradient, has been developed to be as sympathetic as possible to the surrounding properties and that the new layout offers a safer, more accessible, inclusive space.

The Comprehensive Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) does appear to identify and mitigate against disruption, as much as is possible, during the new build for neighbours, pupils and staff. It appears to cover all areas of concern, including hours of work, parking of vehicles of site personnel, operatives and visitors, loading and unloading of plant and materials, measures to control noise and dust etc.

I note the importance of ensuring that the temporary building arrangement, during construction, is appropriately managed so that the school can continue to operate safely and without undue disruption.