Jade3 Architecture Ltd

Job reference: 2025 enquiry 61

Address: Fartown Trinity Methodist Church, Spaines Road, Fartown, Huddersfield, HD2 2SD

Date: 30-10-2026

Extra notes: **Health Impact Assessment report**
change of use from vacant former church (use class F1f) to form nursery (use class Ef) with outdoor play area and associated new mezzanine for tuition centre (use class F1a) and associated car parking.

PART 1 — APPLICANT DETAILS AND PROPOSAL SUMMARY

1.1 Purpose of the assessment

This Rapid Health Impact Assessment has been prepared in support of the proposed development at Fartown Trinity Methodist Church, Spaines Road, Huddersfield. Its purpose is to consider the potential effects of the proposed development on the physical health, mental wellbeing and wider social circumstances of the children who may attend the nursery, their families, staff, tuition-centre users and the surrounding community.

The assessment considers both the potential benefits of the proposal and the measures that may be required to prevent or minimise adverse effects. The assessment has been structured around the development issues identified in Kirklees Council's Rapid Health Impact Assessment guidance, including construction, active travel, green space, food, community safety, employment, community cohesion and climate change. The assessment is proportionate to the nature of the proposal, which involves the reuse and adaptation of an existing building for nursery care and tuition rather than the construction of a new residential apartment development.

1.2 Description of the proposal

The proposal involves the reuse of the existing church building to provide an early-years nursery at upper ground-floor level and a tuition centre on a proposed new internal mezzanine floor. The proposed nursery is intended to provide childcare and early learning opportunities for local families. Its intended approach includes learning through play, appropriate supervision, individual development, positive relationships with parents and suitable safeguarding arrangements. The proposed tuition centre will occupy the new mezzanine level and will operate as a separate facility with an independent dedicated entrance from Spaines Road so that its users do not need to pass through the nursery. The development also includes associated internal and

external alterations, with an outdoor play area, car parking, circulation and access. The proposal seeks to make productive use of an existing building while providing services that may benefit children, families and the local community.

1.3 Assessment methodology

The HIA assessment considers each relevant topic and identifies:

- The likely health and wellbeing effects of the proposal.
- Whether those effects are expected to be positive, negative or uncertain.
- Measures proposed to enhance positive effects and mitigate potential adverse effects.
- Other planning documents or technical assessments relevant to the issue.
- The assessment to be reviewed against any information requested by Kirklees Council.

PART 2 — STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

The proposal has been developed by the applicant and its appointed advisers. The proposed operator's vision is to establish a welcoming and inclusive nursery environment in which children's safety, emotional wellbeing, individual development and learning through play are central to the service.

The design approach seeks to provide a clear distinction between the nursery and tuition-centre uses, with separate access arrangements and appropriate consideration of safeguarding, circulation and external play provision. At the time of preparing this draft, no specific consultation responses from Public Health, healthcare providers or other health-related organisations have been provided for inclusion in the assessment.

PART 3 — RAPID HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 Planning and development issue: Construction phase

Assessment of impacts Overall assessment: Potentially negative during construction, with opportunities for positive longer-term effects. The proposed works will involve adapting an existing building, including construction of an internal new mezzanine and associated alterations. Construction activity may temporarily generate noise, dust, waste, vehicle movements and disturbance to nearby occupants. The extent of these effects will depend on the nature, duration and scale of the works. The reuse of an existing building may reduce the need for more extensive demolition and new construction, subject to the actual scope of works and the amount of material that can be retained.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
Construction noise and dust may cause temporary disturbance to nearby residents and other sensitive users. Construction traffic may affect pedestrian safety and local access if not properly managed. Unsafe storage of materials, poor site housekeeping or inappropriate handling of waste could also create avoidable risks. Conversely, the completed development could provide a useful childcare and educational facility and support employment associated with its operation.

Mitigation and enhancement measures
The applicant and contractor should ensure that construction is undertaken safely and responsibly, including:

- Appropriate management of construction hours and noisy activities.
- Measures to control dust and prevent unnecessary emissions.
- Safe management of construction traffic, deliveries and site access.
- Secure storage of materials and appropriate site boundaries.
- Proper handling, segregation and disposal of construction waste.
- Reuse or recycling of materials where practicable.

Suitable welfare and health-and-safety arrangements for the construction workforce. Initially the contractors could use the existing kitchen and toilet facilities.Construction activities should be planned to minimise disturbance to neighbouring properties and public routes.

Conclusion: Temporary adverse effects may arise during construction but should be capable of being minimised through appropriate site management. The longer-term health benefits will depend on the quality and safe operation of the completed development.

3.2 Planning and development issue: Housing
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Not directly applicable to housing provision; positive indirect effects are possible. The proposal does not include the creation of residential accommodation. The principal use will be childcare and tuition. Nevertheless, the availability of suitable childcare can affect family wellbeing, employment opportunities and the ability of parents and carers to participate in work, education and training.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
Access to childcare may help families manage caring responsibilities and maintain employment or undertake education and training. A suitable early-years environment may also support children's social development, communication, confidence and preparation for school. However, these benefits will depend on the actual service provided, its affordability, accessibility and suitability for local families.

Mitigation and enhancement measures
The operator intends to develop an inclusive and welcoming service, with appropriate consideration of children's individual needs and effective communication with parents. The premises to be designed and fitted out to provide suitable indoor environmental conditions, including appropriate ventilation, lighting, thermal comfort, hygiene and safe circulation. Accessibility and the prevention of avoidable falls or injuries has been addressed.

Conclusion: Housing-related assessment criteria are not directly applicable. The proposal may nevertheless support family wellbeing through the provision of childcare and early learning.

3.3 Planning and development issue: Active travel and sustainable transport
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive, subject to the site's accessibility and the arrangements for arrival and collection. The proposed nursery may generate regular journeys by parents, carers, staff and visitors. The tuition centre may generate additional journeys at different times of the day.

The health implications will depend on the accessibility of the site by walking, cycling and public transport, together with the relationship between pedestrian routes, parking and vehicle movements. The proposal should avoid creating an environment in which children and other pedestrians are exposed to unnecessary conflict with vehicles.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
Opportunities to walk or cycle to local facilities can support physical activity and reduce dependence on private cars. Conversely, poorly managed drop-off and collection activity could create congestion, pedestrian safety concerns, noise and local air-quality effects. Some families may need to travel by car because of distance, disability, caring responsibilities or other practical circumstances. The development provides a balanced approach to accessibility and safety.

Mitigation and enhancement measures
Encourage walking, cycling and public transport where these are realistic options. Prevent vehicles from encroaching on the secure outdoor play area. Establish operating arrangements that minimise congestion and disturbance.

The operator to consider staggered arrival or collection arrangements where appropriate to the nursery's capacity and operating model. Any necessary highway or transport assessment should be undertaken separately where requested by the Local Planning Authority.

Conclusion: The proposal has the potential to support active travel, but the overall impact will depend on actual site accessibility and the final access, parking and operational arrangements.

3.4 Planning and development issue: Access to open and green spaces
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive for nursery users, subject to the final provision and suitability of the outdoor area. The proposal intends to provide outdoor play opportunities for children. Access to suitable outdoor environments can support physical activity, coordination, exploration, social interaction and emotional wellbeing. The proposed outdoor area would serve the nursery rather than provide a publicly accessible park or general community open space. However, Norman Park is only 5-10 minutes walk and has many play equipment.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
A secured outdoor play area can provide children with opportunities for movement, imaginative play, contact with nature and age-appropriate physical activity. Activities such as gardening, observing plants and exploring natural materials may also support curiosity and early learning. The benefits will depend on the size, layout, quality, accessibility and supervision of the space.

The operator may also consider simple nature-based activities, such as planting seeds and observing seasonal changes, if the final space allows. The capacity of the nursery to be consistent with the usable indoor accommodation, outdoor provision, staffing and applicable childcare requirements.

Conclusion: Outdoor play has the potential to provide a positive health and wellbeing benefit for nursery children.

3.5 Planning and development issue: Access to healthy and affordable food
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive through childcare practices; the specific food arrangements remain to be confirmed. The proposed nursery may provide opportunities to encourage healthy eating, hydration and positive food habits during early childhood. The proposal does not currently establish whether meals will be prepared on site, supplied by a caterer or brought in by parents.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
Appropriate nutrition and hydration support children's health, growth and development. The nursery can also help children become familiar with a variety of foods and develop age-appropriate understanding of healthy habits. Food allergies, intolerances and dietary requirements require careful management to protect children's health and safety.

Mitigation and enhancement measures
The operator should establish suitable arrangements for:

- Providing healthy,
- age-appropriate food and

refreshments where these are offered.

Access to drinking water.

- Recording and managing allergies and dietary requirements.
- Preventing food contamination and cross-contamination.
- Communicating relevant dietary information to staff.
- Maintaining suitable food storage, preparation and hygiene arrangements.
- Considering individual cultural, religious and medical dietary requirements.

If food preparation is proposed on site, the layout and facilities to be appropriate to the intended activity and comply with relevant requirements. The operator may also consider age-appropriate activities that introduce children to fruit, vegetables, seeds and food growing, subject to the suitability of the premises.

Conclusion: The nursery could contribute positively to children's nutrition and healthy habits.

3.6 Planning and development issue: Community and personal safety
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive, provided the final design and operation deliver effective safeguarding and safe circulation. The proposal will accommodate young children, their families, nursery staff and tuition-centre users. These groups have different needs and will require appropriate access, supervision and management arrangements. The intended separation between the ground-floor nursery and mezzanine tuition centre is an important element of the proposal.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
A well-designed childcare environment can support physical safety, emotional security and parental confidence. Risks could arise if access is uncontrolled, the outdoor play area is not secure, pedestrians conflict with vehicles, or the two uses are not adequately separated. The new mezzanine arrangement also requires careful consideration of circulation, occupancy and emergency escape.

Any CCTV system should have a defined and proportionate purpose, with suitable arrangements for privacy, data protection and access to recordings. The nursery and tuition centre should each have appropriate operational procedures suited to their users and activities.

Conclusion: The proposal has the potential to provide a safe and well-managed environment. These benefits depend on the final layout, appropriate technical design and effective implementation of the operator's safeguarding procedures.

3.7 Planning and development issue: Employment and economic vibrancy
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive.
The proposed nursery and tuition centre may create employment opportunities and support the local economy.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
Suitable employment can support household income, social participation and individual wellbeing.

- The provision of childcare may also help parents and carers participate in employment, education and training.
- The proposal could therefore provide benefits both through direct employment and through the support it offers to families.
- Mitigation and enhancement measures

- The operator may consider recruiting locally where suitable candidates are available and providing appropriate staff training and development opportunities.
- Staffing arrangements must be appropriate to the intended services, children's ages and applicable regulatory requirements.

Relevant supporting documents
Nursery Vision and Operational Commitments Statement.
Conclusion: The proposal has the potential to support employment and economic activity, although the scale of these benefits cannot be quantified until the operator's business and staffing plans are established.

3.8 Planning and development issue: Community cohesion
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive.
The proposed nursery would provide a service for young children and families in the local area. The tuition centre would provide a separate educational activity within the same building. The proposal has the potential to support family life, early learning and social interaction.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
- Access to childcare can help parents and carers manage their responsibilities and participate in employment, education and community life.
- A welcoming nursery may also help families build relationships with other parents and develop connections with the local community.
- An inclusive approach can help children develop an understanding of others and build positive social relationships.
- However, the actual benefit will depend on the service provided, its accessibility and the operator's ability to respond to local needs.

Mitigation and enhancement measures
The operator intends to provide a welcoming and respectful environment for children and families from different backgrounds. It will seek to maintain constructive communication with parents and consider individual needs when planning activities and care. The separate access arrangements for the tuition centre will help the two facilities operate as distinct uses while allowing them to coexist within the building.

Conclusion: The proposal has the potential to contribute positively to community wellbeing by providing childcare and educational services. These benefits should be

considered alongside the practical accessibility and operation of the completed development.

3.9 Planning and development issue: Climate change
Assessment of impacts
Overall assessment: Potentially positive through the reuse of the existing building; further details are required to establish the full effect. The proposal seeks to adapt an existing building rather than construct an entirely new building. Retaining and reusing existing structures can reduce the demand for new construction materials, subject to the extent of alteration and the condition of the existing building. The development will nevertheless require energy for lighting, heating, ventilation and the operation of the nursery and tuition centre.

Potential effects on health and wellbeing
A well-managed indoor environment can support children's comfort and wellbeing. Poor ventilation, excessive heat, cold or inadequate lighting could adversely affect the experience of building users.

Climate change may also increase the importance of managing overheating, extreme weather and surface-water runoff.

- Mitigation and enhancement measures
- The design and operation should consider:
- Retaining existing building fabric where practicable.
- Improving energy efficiency where technically and economically feasible.
- Appropriate ventilation and indoor air quality.
- Adequate natural and artificial lighting.
- Thermal comfort and overheating risk.
- Efficient lighting and building services.
- Water efficiency and appropriate drainage.
- Waste reduction and recycling.
- Planting or other green infrastructure where the site permits.

Any external planting must be compatible with the secure operation of the nursery, visibility, maintenance and site constraints.
The proposed development should also consider how to minimise unnecessary vehicle movements and encourage active travel where practicable.

Conclusion: Reuse of the existing building offers an opportunity to reduce material demand compared with more extensive redevelopment. The overall climate and

environmental benefits will depend on the final scope of works, building performance and operational arrangements.

PART 4 — SUMMARY OF HEALTH IMPACTS

The assessment identifies the following principal potential effects.

- Development issue
- Overall assessment
- Key consideration
- Construction
- Potentially negative during works
- Control noise, dust, waste and construction traffic.
- Housing
- Not directly applicable; indirect benefits possible
- Childcare may support family wellbeing and participation in work or training.
- Active travel and transport
- Potentially positive, with risks to manage
- Safe access, parking, collection arrangements and opportunities for walking and cycling.
- Open and green space
- Potentially positive
- Provide suitable, secure outdoor play space where the site allows.
- Healthy and affordable food
- Potentially positive
- Establish suitable food, hydration and allergy-management arrangements.
- Community and personal safety
- Potentially positive, subject to implementation
- Secure access, effective supervision, separate uses and appropriate emergency arrangements.
- Employment and economic vibrancy
- Potentially positive
- Employment and childcare benefits depend on the final operating model.
- Community cohesion
- Potentially positive
- Inclusive childcare and educational provision for local families.
- Climate change
- Potentially positive, subject to further detail
- Reuse of the building,
- energy efficiency,

- ventilation and
- appropriate environmental measures.

4.1 Overall conclusion

The proposed development has the potential to deliver positive health and wellbeing benefits through the provision of childcare and early-learning facilities within an existing building. The principal anticipated benefits relate to children's early development, family support, opportunities for physical and creative activity, employment and the provision of a useful local service.

The proposal also presents matters requiring careful consideration, particularly the management of arrival and collection, pedestrian and vehicle safety, secure outdoor play, the separation of the nursery and tuition centre, indoor environmental quality and emergency arrangements.

The assessment indicates that these matters can be addressed through appropriate design, technical assessment and operational procedures, subject to the final layout and the requirements of the relevant authorities. The assessment does not establish that all potential impacts have been eliminated. Its conclusions depend on the final design, the operator's actual arrangements and the implementation of the identified mitigation measures. The applicant requests that the proposed development be considered in the context of its potential contribution to local health and wellbeing, alongside the relevant planning policies and other material considerations.

Prepared by
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