

St Pauls Junior School ASD

Landscape Management & Maintenance Plan

23rd June 2026

WKR-MEL-01-00-RP-L-0001



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Landscape Management & Maintenance Plan

Introduction

The aim of the project is to provide a new special needs building for St Pauls Junior School, together with improvements to the wider landscape setting to tie the two together.

ME Landscape Studio has been commissioned to prepare Soft Landscape Proposals for the site.

Landscape Approach

The key elements of the landscape design are:

- Native planting, including a 'tapestry' hedge to the southern edge of the new building. This includes a line of four Mountain Ash trees (*Sorbus aucuparia*). This provides a level of physical and visual separation from the unit and the rest of the school
- A wildflower meadow to the west of the unit, with a mown path providing access to the existing Nature Garden. Tree planting is incorporated to provide a level of shade to outdoor areas.
- A Growing Area with raised planters, combined with sensory planting and a line of pleached hornbeams (*Carpinus betulus*) providing a level of screening from the existing swimming pool to the north.
- A 'Herb Lawn' incorporating camomile and thyme plants between the unit and the main school building.

Management Plan Objectives

The key objectives of the management plan are:

1. To ensure the successful planting, establishment and healthy growth of trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses and wildflower meadow areas;
2. To maintain all hard landscape areas, to achieve a clean, tidy condition and appearance.

General Maintenance

This redevelopment is through a main contractor, with the hard and soft landscape works being carried out by a specialist sub-contractor, and once this contractor has maintained the planting during the defects liability and maintenance period (two years for general softworks areas, and five years for trees), the school will become responsible for the maintenance of the landscape. Inspection checks shall be carried out at monthly intervals and the appropriate work carried out

as required.

The softworks contractor entirely at his own cost shall make any defects, or other faults other than tree, shrub and other plant failures that appear within the defects liability period, and are due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the specification good. Any trees, shrubs, other plants, turf and bulbs other than those found to be missing or maliciously damaged which are found to be defective at practical completion of the entire project shall be replaced by the softworks contractor entirely at their own cost.

All weeds shall be cut down and removed off site to a tip found by the contractor. One approved contact herbicide spray shall be applied to all areas of site to eliminate any remaining green weed vegetation.

Once the defects liability period has expired, the school shall be responsible for all periodic maintenance and replacement to all planted areas to which its management and maintenance plan relates and shall ensure that it carries out periodic maintenance of all such areas in accordance with the general horticultural schedules below. Inspection checks shall be carried out at monthly intervals and the appropriate work carried out.

The site shall be cleared of all loose debris, rubbish and foreign matter of any kind and removed to a designated area by the softworks contractor.

Components

The following vegetation components are considered:

1. Trees – planted as part of the softworks scheme
2. Shrubs and Ornamental Grasses
3. Perennial mixes
4. Hedging
5. Wildflower Meadow Areas
6. Hard Landscape Areas.

Each vegetation component is discussed in greater detail below.

We have also included a short section on Hard Landscape areas.

1. Trees

- 1.1 Watering** - As required to ensure success of tree planting. All trees to receive watering for the growing season; Quantity: 25 litres per tree per application. Always consider published meteorological data on rainfall for any given period, in particular in periods of Spring and Summer drought. Water in the morning or early evening to reduce evaporation.
- 1.2 Fertiliser** - Slow-release fertiliser (rate: 80g/m²) to be spread over planted areas in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Fertiliser to be in a granular form. Carry out a single application in April.
- 1.3 Stakes and tree ties** - Inspect all trees three times during the year. Adjust fixing to suit stem growth and provide correct and uniform tension. If growth is sufficient for tree to be self-supporting, remove fixing and fill holes with lightly compacted soil. Check stakes for looseness, breaks and decay and replace as necessary. Timings of inspections are indicated in table; however, trees should also be inspected after strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
- 1.4 Maintaining pleached trees** – key works to maintain the pleached trees are:
- **Summer (July/August):** This is the main pruning time. Use sharp hedging shears to trim away any wispy, outward-growing, or wayward shoots back to the main framework.
 - **Autumn/Winter (October–November):** Once the leaves have fallen, give the trees a final, lighter trim to clean up the shape and ensure they look neat through the colder months.
 - **Maintaining the Frame:** Weave and tie any flexible new lateral shoots horizontally onto the bamboo training framework using soft garden twine. Cut back any branches growing aggressively straight up that ruin the flat canopy shape.
 - **The Trunk:** Regularly rub off or prune any new shoots that sprout up on the clear lower trunk to keep it tidy.
- 1.5 Weed control** - Tree stems: Do not allow nylon filament rotary cutters or other mechanical tools closer than 200mm to the stem of any tree. Include for trim guards around the base of each tree, height 225mm. Carry out operations close to stems using hand tools.
- Herbicide application: A foliar acting or contact herbicide can be used to emergent weeds next in weeds growing by base of tree trunks.
- All arisings are to be removed off site.
- 1.6 Mulching** - Depth required: top up mulch to a minimum thickness of 50mm. Two visits are indicated, in October and April. Material: Amenity bark mulch.

1.7 Removal of dead plant material

Operations: At the end of the growing season, check all shrubs and remove all dead foliage, dead wood, and broken or damaged branches and stems.

1.8 Dead and diseased trees and plants

Removal: Within one week of notification.

Replacement: In the next suitable planting season.

Trees to be replaced with equivalent species and size

1.9 Removing trees

Standards: To BS 3998, Appendix A and Health & Safety Executive (HSE)/ Arboricultural and Forestry Advisory Group Safety Leaflets.

Existing services: Check for below and above ground services. Give notice if they may be affected.

Shrubs and smaller trees: Cut down and grub up roots.

Tree stumps:

- Removal: Cut as close to ground as possible and kill by applying ammonium sulfamate into drilled holes immediately after felling.

- Removal by winching: Give notice. Do not use other trees as supports or anchors.

Protection: As section A34.

Work near retained trees: Where tree canopies overlap and in confined spaces generally, take down trees carefully in small sections to avoid damage to adjacent trees that are to be retained.

Filling holes:

- Material: Use as-dug material and/ or imported soil as required.

- Finishing: Consolidate and grade to marry in with surrounding ground level.

1.10 Bark Damage

Wounds:

- Do not attempt to stop sap bleeding.

- Bark: Remove ragged edges using a sharp knife.

- Wood: Remove splintered wood from deep wounds.

- Size: Keep wounds as small as possible.

Liquid or flux oozing from apparently healthy bark: Give notice.

1.11 Cavities in Trees

Investigation: Remove rubbish and rotten wood. Probe the cavity to find the extent of any decay, and give notice.

Water filled cavities: Do not drain.

Sound wood inside cavities: Do not remove.

Cavity openings: Do not cover.

2. Shrubs and Ornamental Grasses

2.1 **Watering** - All planting to receive watering during the year. Always to take account of published meteorological data on rainfall for any periods, in particular in periods of spring drought (April, May and June) and late-summer drought (September). Shrub borders and ornamental grasses shall be watered as required to ensure the continued survival and health of the planting. Soil to be wet to full rooting depth. Water in the morning or early evening to reduce evaporation. If water supply is restricted by emergency legislation, an alternative suitable source of water should be sourced.

2.2 **Fertiliser** - Slow release fertiliser (rate: 40g/m²) to be spread over planted areas in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Fertiliser to be in a granular form. Carry out a single application in March.

2.3 **Weeding** - All beds or borders should be maintained in a clean and weed-free condition at all times. Following the clearance of litter, leaves and any debris from the bed or border, weeds shall be removed by hand taking care to dig out perennial weeds by the roots. On completion of each weeding exercise, the entire bed or border shall be clean, litter and weed-free.

When hoeing, care shall be taken not to damage the plants. Weeds shall be removed as the work proceeds. Where mixed beds or borders and mature shrubberies are sparsely planted or where they present any areas of bare soil they shall be maintained in a weed-free condition by hoeing and hand weeding to the outlined standards throughout the year.

All arisings are to be removed off site.

2.4 **Mulching** - Apply shredded bark mulch to all beds and borders. The mulch shall be added to the beds twice a year, to obtain a 75mm depth of mulch. This depth of mulch shall be maintained throughout the year. Mulch shall be applied following forking and weeding when the ground is not frozen. Beds should be have been thoroughly weeded before applying mulch. The mulching material shall be graded at the edges to form a neat slope avoiding spillage onto surrounding areas.

Mulch spill on adjacent surfaces: Remove weeds and debris and return to planted areas;

2.5 **Pruning** - At the end of the growing season, check all shrubs and remove all dead foliage, dead wood and broken damaged branches and stems. Large branches resulted from pruning to be retained on site and either composted or to be utilized in the creation of habitat piles in unobtrusive areas.

Timing: Unless otherwise specified or instructed, prune: Shrubs flowering between March and July immediately after the flowering period: Shrubs flowering between July and October back to old wood in winter.

For perennial grasses (i.e. *Stipa gigantea* and *Anemanthele lessoniana*), tease out dead foliage by gently in spring by running fingers through it. Pull out any self-seeded seedlings if spotted. If they require cutting back or thinning to regenerate growth (if foliage becomes straw like), divide/ cut back to 100mm in spring.

2.6 **Fork** - Fork all beds or borders annually during the winter season. All open and bare areas within the plantings shall be forked evenly to a depth of 75mm using a border fork. The area shall be left in a tidy, level fashion, with all clods broken down, leaving particles of an even size according to soil type and location.

All weeds shall be removed from the bed or border during this operation. Particular care shall be taken to dig out perennial weeds by the roots. Care shall be taken not to damage the root growth of the plants. All arisings are to be removed off site.

3. Perennial mixes

- 3.1 Remove spent flowers.** Using scissors or hand pruners, snip off flower stems just above a leaf or bud when they finish blooming to prevent them from forming seeds. Pick off damaged leaves.
- 3.2 Inspect for pests and problems.** Look for leaves with holes or ragged edges; sticky, discoloured or spotted leaves; chewed or abnormally growing flowers or buds; or damaged stems. If you discover a problem, take samples of the damaged advise the Client to agree a suitable course of action (separate identification and advice from a horticultural specialist may be required).
- 3.3 Watering** - All planting to receive watering during the year. Always to take account of published meteorological data on rainfall for any periods, in particular in periods of spring drought (April, May and June) and late-summer drought (September). Water all perennial plant areas until the soil is moist to a depth of 150-200mm. Avoid wetting plant leaves late in the day to prevent the spread of some plant diseases.
- 3.4 Weeding** - Remove weeds as you see them on your daily or weekly inspection. Use a hoe with a small, sharp blade to slice them off just under the soil surface, or pull weeds by hand.
- 3.5 Edge of perennial planting beds** - Keep the edges well defined and tidy with a half-moon edger. Remove arisings from the site.
- 3.6 Fertiliser and mulching** - Early in the spring, fertilise with a granular, slow-release fertiliser formulated for perennial gardens. Follow manufacturers recommendations for the correct application rates. Replace or renew organic mulch, such as shredded bark or leaves.
- 3.7 Seasonal clean-up.** In cold-winter climates, protect tender plants after the ground freezes with a 4- to 6-inch layer of loose mulch. Cut back perennials to within 8 to 10 inches of the ground after the tops die back or leave them uncut for protection against the cold. In spring, cut back all dead stems to the ground and rake out the debris.

4. Hedging

4.1 **Aim** - To maintain hedge structure appearance. Keep the predetermined height, shape and width for their intended purpose, form and function.

4.2 **Watering** - All planting to receive watering for at least the first 2 growing seasons. Ensure sufficient water is applied to maintain healthy growth; considering published meteorological data on rainfall for any given period, in particular in periods of spring drought (April, May & June) and late-summer drought (September). Water in the morning or early evening to reduce evaporation.

4.3 **Fertiliser** - Slow release fertiliser (rate: 40g/m²) to be spread over planted areas in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Fertiliser to be in a granular form. Carry out a single application between March and May for the first 3 years after planting.

4.4 **Weeding** - All planting areas shall be kept clear of weed growth for the year. Achieve by a combination of hand-weeding/hoeing, with herbicide applications if necessary and agreed with the client. Ensure that the methods used will cause a minimum of damage to adjacent planted areas.

Hand weeding: Hoe and loosen the soil throughout the planting areas, taking care to avoid disturbance of roots of planted material. Remove weeds entirely, including roots. Remove the minimum of soil and minimise disturbance to plants and mulched surfaces. On completion, rake areas to a neat condition.

All arisings are to be removed off site.

4.5 **Mulching** - Depth required: top up mulch to a minimum thickness of 50mm across all hedge planting lines. Mulch spill on adjacent surfaces: Remove mulch and debris and return to planted areas; Material: Bark Mulch.

4.6 **Pruning** - Timing: Winter

Prune hedging plants as per individual species (refer to planting table 4). Form: Allow to reach planned dimensions only by gradual degrees, depending on growth rate and habit. Allow for 10% replacement and restocking of hedge plants.

- 4.7 **Plant replacement** - Remove dead plants as soon as possible and replace in the next scheduled round of replacement planting. Replacement to be similar size of existing hedge for consistency. Instant hedging will be necessary, to match the height of surrounding hedging plants.

5. Wildflower Meadows

- 6.1 **Mowing** - A traditional meadow management strategy based around a main autumn cut (once the wildflowers have flowered and set seed), with a winter and possibly a spring cut, dependent on amount of regrowth. After flowering take a 'hay cut' in September: cut back with a scythe or petrol strimmer to a height of approximately 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed its seed for 1-7 days, then remove from site. Mow the re-growth in winter (December) to approximately 50mm and again in spring if needed. Refer to Germinal Amenity cutting guidance for further details.
- 6.2 **Weeding** - Control invasive grass species to maintain the diversity of the meadow grassland. In addition to the above mowing regime, spot treat with selective approved herbicide to deal with pernicious perennial weeds such as Dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), Rosebay willowherb (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*) and Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*).
- 6.3 **Mown path** – a path to the entrance of the Nature Garden is to be kept mown on a regular basis.
- 6.4 **Clearance of woody species** - clear by hand any woody species at the end of the year that have started to encroach on the meadow.

6. Hard Landscape areas

8.1 **Management Objectives** - To ensure that hard landscape surfaces are safe and comfortable to use and are clean from litter and other debris.

8.2 **Pest control – Mammals** - Keep perimeter areas tidy and clear of low-growing vegetation that can provide cover for rat burrows, and can trap rubbish etc. to provide an ideal habitat for rats to forage in. It is particularly important to keep bin areas tidy with lids that close firmly, and have well-fitted drain covers.

Professional intervention will usually be required to control rats with traps and/or rodenticides, and drain problems will usually require expert investigation. Many pest control companies can arrange for CCTV Drain surveys and the fitting of one way drain valves. In some areas refuse collectors will not collect from bin rooms where rats are evident and in these instances pest control companies that are waste carriers can provide clearances. Consideration should be given to regular pest control inspections in external bin and landscaped areas. Proposals to be in line with Peabody policy.

8.2 Annual Works

General cleanliness: All paved surfaces shall be swept monthly to ensure that they are clean, tidy and free from dust, litter and debris (removing all arisings off site). Increase sweeping to fortnightly in autumn when leaves are falling.

Condition of paved surfaces: All hard landscape surfaces and edgings shall be inspected monthly, checking for mechanical damage, vandalism, settlement, frost heave, staining, litter and debris or any other defect. Any such defects shall be documented and corrective methodology agreed with the Client and implemented as appropriate by the Landscape Maintenance Contractor.

Appendices

Plant Schedule

WKR-MEL-01-00-SH-L-0001_Plant Schedule

Softworks Plan

WKR-MEL-01-00-DR-L-0200_Softworks Plan

EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture

Maintenance Schedule

General Maintenance Schedule

	Maintenance Operation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
a	Remove all arisings from maintenance operations; remove to the designated area	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
b	Ensure all hard surfaces are kept free from litter/ leaves and sweep as required	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
c	Rake-up fallen leaf litter; remove from site	Sept-Dec As required	Sept-Dec As required	Sept-Dec As required	Sept-Dec As required	Sept-Dec As required

Wildflower Meadow Areas Schedule

	Maintenance Operation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
a	Establishment of newly-established wildflower areas: March – cut to 40-70mm if there is sufficient material; May – cut to 40-70mm in early May; September – cut to 40mm after flowering. Remove all clippings from site	Autumn-sown: March/May/Sept	-	-	-	-
b	Cut wildflower meadow areas to a height of 40mm, twice yearly; remove all clippings from the site	-	March/October	March/October	March/October	March/October

Tree and Shrub Planting Schedule

	Maintenance Operation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
a	Undertake watering as required to ensure healthy establishment of all plant stock	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct
b	Ensure all planted areas are kept weed-free; most weeding to be carried out by hand; remove all material from site	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
c	Where hand weeding cannot be carried out, apply an approved residual weed killer	Sept – Oct As required	Sept – Oct As required	Sept – Oct As required	Sept – Oct As required	Sept – Oct As required
d	Remove fallen leaves from tree and shrub areas; rake up and remove from site	Sept – Dec As required	Sept – Dec As required	Sept – Dec As required	Sept – Dec As required	Sept – Dec As required
e	Reinstate any failed plant stock to agreed specification; include for top dressing with slow release fertiliser (Planted areas – 40g/m ² ; Trees – 80g/m ²)	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
f	Inspect tree stakes/ties/guards and replace/remove as required	Monthly/ As required after a storm	Monthly/ As required after a storm	Monthly/ As required after a storm	-	-
g	Pruning of the crown to control outward-growing or wayward shoots	July-Aug	July-Aug	July-Aug	July-Aug	July-Aug
	Final light trim to clean up the pleached canopy shape	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov
h	Supply and apply an approved top dressing of slow release fertiliser at	May	May	May	May	May

	a rate of 40g/m ² to all planting areas					
i	Supply and apply an approved top dressing of slow release fertiliser at a rate of 80g/m ² to all trees	May	May	May	May	May
j	Undertake formative and annual pruning to maintain natural shape and encourage good growth	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov
k	Selective thinning of shrubs to achieve a canopy and understorey	-	-	-	-	Oct-Nov
l	Top up bark mulch layer to a consistent thickness, as necessary	Annually/following maintenance operations	Annually/following maintenance operations	Annually/following maintenance operations	Annually/following maintenance operations	Annually/following maintenance operations
m	Minor pruning of dead or damaged wood; remove all material from site	Annually as required Sept/Oct	Annually as required Sept/Oct	Annually as required Sept/Oct	Annually as required Sept/Oct	Annually as required Sept/Oct
n	Re-cultivate around base of shrubs by light hoeing to relieve soil compaction	4 times between Apr-Oct	4 times between Apr-Oct	4 times between Apr-Oct	4 times between Apr-Oct	4 times between Apr-Oct
o	Native hedge – prune to encourage growth and promote good form	Late-summer (lateral growth only)	Annually Late summer	Annually Late summer	Annually Late summer	Annually Late summer
p	Ornamental grasses – trim deciduous species to ground level before growth starts in early spring	-	Early spring	Early spring	Early spring	Early spring

Plant Schedule



Trees	Source	Age	Height	Girth	Root	Cntr	Form	ClrStem	Breaks	Spacing	Quantity
Acer campestre	(NPS)	3x	400-450cm	16-18cm	RB	60cm	Standard (Extra Heavy)	min 200cm	5	-	3
Carpinus betulus	-		300cm	18-20cm	C	45L	Pleached (on frame)	160cm		-	4
Liquidamber styraciflua 'Slender Silhouette'	-			20-25cm	RB	70cm				-	1
Prunus 'The Bride'	-		175-200cm		C	20L				-	1
Sorbus aucuparia	(NPS)	3x	400-450cm	16-18cm	RB	60cm	Standard (Extra Heavy)	min 200cm	5	-	5

Ornamental Planting	Source		Height		Root	Cntr	Habit	Propogation	Brks	Spacing	Quantity
Achillea 'Cloth of Gold'	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		V		7/m.sq	59
Anemone x hybrida 'Honorine Jobert'	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		S		7/m.sq	59
Cornus sanguinea 'Midwinter Fire'	(NPS)		40-60cm		C	3L	Branched		4	3/m.sq	9
Pennisetum setaceum 'Rubrum'	(NPS)		-		C	3-4L		S or V		5/m.sq	42
Rosmarinus officinalis	(NPS)		40-60cm		C	4	Bushy		4	3/m.sq	9
Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis	(NPS)		40-60cm		C	10L	Bushy			3/m.sq	25
Stipa tenuissima	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		S or V		5/m.sq	16
Thymus vulgaris	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		S or V		10/m.sq	84

Native Planting	Source	Code			Root	Cntr		Propogation	Breaks	Spacing	Quantity
Cornus sanguinea	(NPS)		40-60cm		C	3L	Branched		4	3/m.sq	23
Cytisus scoparius	(NPS)		40-60cm		C	3L	Bushy		7	3/m.sq	23
Primula vulgaris	(NPS)		-		C	3-4L		S		5/m.sq	39
Silene dioica	(NPS)				C	3-4L		S		5/m.sq	39
Vinca minor	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		S or V		5/m.sq	39

Herb Lawn	Source		Height		Root	Cntr		Propogation		Spacing	Quantity
Chamaemelum nobile	(NPS)		-		C	3-4L		V		10/m.sq	395
Thymus serpyllum	(NPS)		-		C	1.5-2L		S		10/m.sq	395

Native 'Tapestry' hedge	Source		Height		Root	Cntr		Habit	Breaks	Spacing	Quantity
Acer campestre	(NPS)	1+1	40-60cm		B			Transplant		6/lin.m	45
Carpinus betulus	(NPS)	1+1	40-60cm		B			Transplant		6/lin.m	45
Cornus sanguinea	(NPS)	1+1	40-60cm		B			Transplant	3	6/lin.m	45
Corylus avellana	(NPS)	1+1	40-60cm		B			Transplant	3	6/lin.m	45

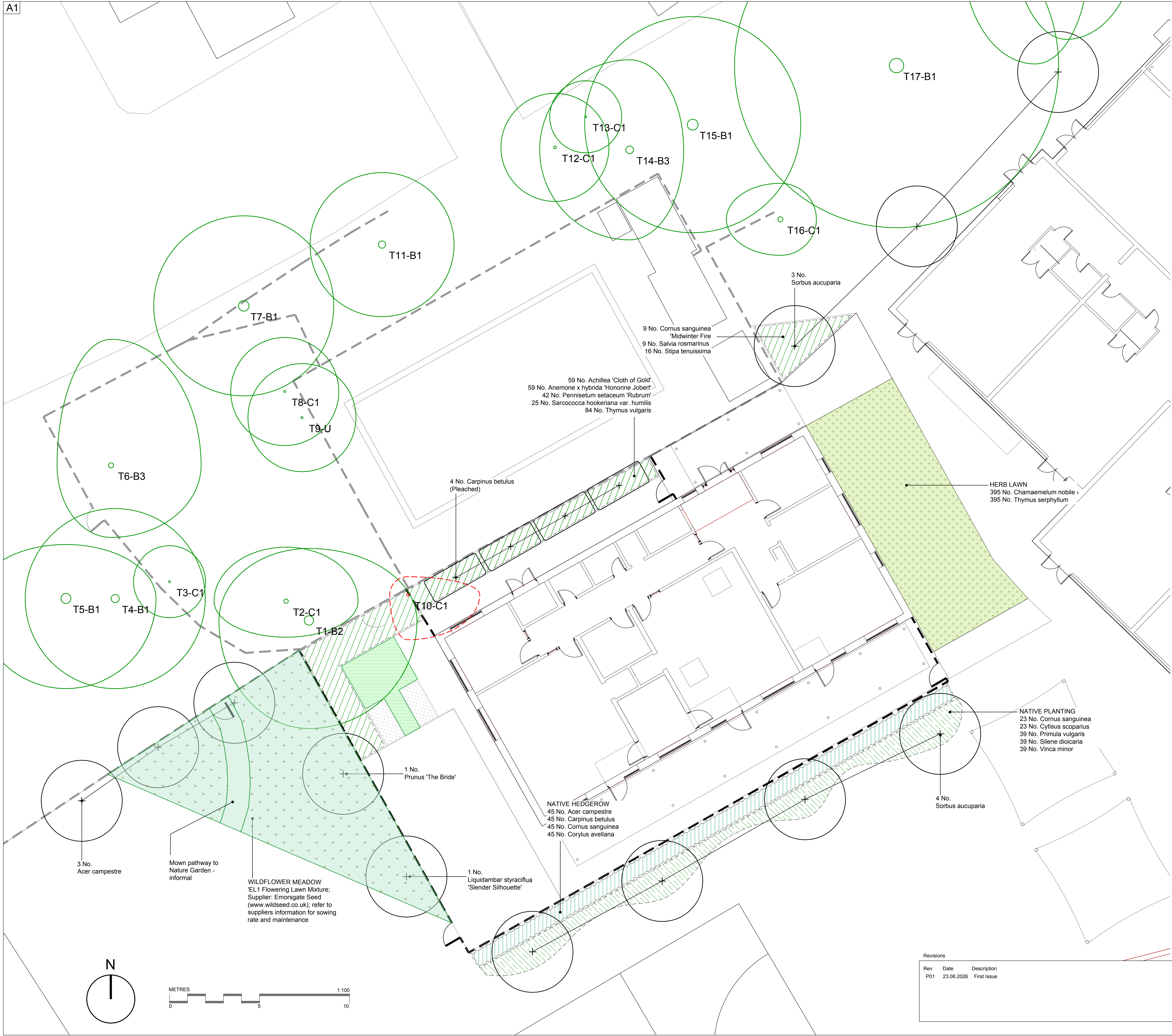
Wildflower Meadow

EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture; Supplier: Emorsgate Seed (www.wildseed.co.uk); refer to suppliers information for sowing rate and maintenance

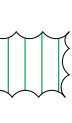
Hard Wearing Lawn - to Growing Area

EG22 Strong Lawn Grass Mixture; Supplier: Emorsgate Seed (www.wildseed.co.uk); refer to suppliers information for sowing rate and maintenance

Softworks Plan



-  PROPOSED ORNAMENTAL PLANTING

 PROPOSED ORNAMENTAL PLANTING

 PROPOSED HEDGE PLANTING

 **FLOWERING LAWN**
EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture
Supplier: Emorsgate Seeds; wildseed.co.uk or equivalent approved

 **HERB LAWN**
Chamaemelum nobile
Thymus serpyllum

 **HARD WEARING LAWN**
EG22 Strong Lawn Grass Mixture
Supplier: Emorsgate Seeds; wildseed.co.uk or equivalent approved

 PROPOSED PLEACHED TREES

 PROPOSED TREES

 EXISTING TREES - RETAINED

 EXISTING TREES - REMOVED

Revisions		
Rev	Date	Description
P01	23.06.2026	First Issue

49 Canonbie Road, London SE23 3AQ
07971 699 601 info@me-landscape.com

Project	St Paul's Junior School ASD				Client	Wokingham BC			
Drawing	Landscape Softworks Plan								
Drawing No.	WKR-MEL-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0200				Scale	1:100@A1			
Drawn	EL	Checked	ML	Status	S3	Date	23.06.2026	Rev	P01

EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture

Suggested Sowing Rates

40kg/ha 16kg/acre 4g/m²

Description

Mixture EL1 contains slow growing grasses with a selection of wild flowers that respond well to regular short mowing.

Ground Preparation

Endeavour to select ground that is not highly fertile and does not have a problem with perennial weeds. Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing.

To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation. Then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium tilth, and roll or tread to produce a level firm surface.

Sowing

Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out, divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed, but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact.

First Year Management

The wild flower and grass species in this mix are perennial; they will be slow to germinate and grow and will not usually flower in their first growing season. There will often be a flush of annual weeds from the soil in the first growing season. This annual weed growth is easily controlled by repeated mowing.

Mow newly sown flowering lawns regularly (every 7 -10 days during growing season) throughout the first year of establishment. Cut to a height of 40-60mm, removing cuttings if dense. This will gradually develop a good sward structure, help maintain balance between faster growing grasses and slower developing wild flowers, and control annual weeds. Dig out any residual perennial weeds such as docks.

Management Once Established

Mow regularly as a lawn but not too short (25-40mm). To permit flowering, mowing can be relaxed from May. Cut again when the sward gets untidy (after 4-8 weeks). Mowing may be suspended earlier in the year to allow cowslips to flower. Heavy quantities of cuttings should be collected and removed from site.

EL1 is a complete mix composed of 20% wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight). The flower and grass components are also available to order separately as EL1F for the flower component and EG1 for the grass component. For quicker establishment of grass cover EL1 may be sown with an additional 10g/m² EG1 or lawn mixtures EG21 or EG22. Higher grass sowing rates will however reduce the time and space available for flower establishment, especially in good growing conditions.

Composition

EL1 is a mixture containing 20% wild flowers and 80% meadow grasses. EL1F and EG1 are available to purchase separately.

Wild flowers – 20%

- 1.00% [*Anthyllis vulneraria* – Kidney Vetch](#)
- 1.00% [*Betonica officinalis* – Betony](#)
- 1.60% [*Centaurea nigra* – Common Knapweed](#)
- 1.00% [*Galium album* – Hedge Bedstraw](#)
- 1.40% [*Leucanthemum vulgare* – Oxeye Daisy](#)
- 0.10% [*Lotus corniculatus* – Birdsfoot Trefoil](#)
- 0.70% [*Medicago lupulina* – Black Medick](#)
- 2.40% [*Plantago lanceolata* – Ribwort Plantain](#)
- 1.00% [*Primula veris* – Cowslip](#)
- 1.20% [*Prunella vulgaris* – Selfheal](#)
- 1.60% [*Ranunculus acris* – Meadow Buttercup](#)
- 1.00% [*Silene vulgaris* – Bladder Campion](#)
- 0.40% [*Taraxacum officinale* – Dandelion](#)
- 5.60% [*Trifolium repens* – White Clover \(ag\)](#)

Grasses – 80%

- 8.00% [*Agrostis capillaris* – Common Bent](#)
- 28.00% [*Cynosurus cristatus* – Crested Dogstail](#)
- 24.00% [*Festuca rubra* – Red Fescue](#)
- 4.00% [*Phleum bertolonii* – Smaller Cat's-tail](#)
- 16.00% [*Poa pratensis* – Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass](#)