

REG 3 PLANNING APPROVAL **DRAFT DECISION NOTICE**



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Expiry Date: 19 June 2026

Application Number: 260424

Location: Keep Hatch Primary School, Ashridge Road, Wokingham, RG40 1PG

Proposal: Full application for the proposed erection of a detached single storey building to form a new SEND unit with associated landscaping.

Recommendation: Approve

Conditions and/or Reasons

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In pursuance of s.91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by s.51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

2. This permission is in respect of the submitted application plans and drawings numbered/titled:

- Location Plan – 1001 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)
- Proposed Site Plan – 1201 PL2 (received 24/02/2026)
- Proposed Ground Floor Plan – 1200 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)
- Proposed SW & NE Elevations – 1402 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)
- Proposed SE Elevations – 1403 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)
- Proposed NW Elevations – 1404 PL1 (received 18/02/20256)
- Proposed Site Sections – 1300 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)
- Proposed Sections – 2800 PL1 (received 18/02/2026)

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details unless other minor variations are agreed in writing after the date of this permission and before implementation with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the application form and associated details hereby approved.

3. The materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the development hereby permitted shall be as specified on the approved plans/application form unless other minor variations are agreed in writing after the date of this permission and before implementation with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the external appearance of the building is satisfactory.
Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP1 and CP3.

4. No development shall take place, including any works of demolition, until a Construction Method Statement has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority. The approved Statement shall be adhered to throughout the construction period. The Statement shall provide for:

- i) the parking of vehicles of site operatives and visitors,
- ii) loading and unloading of plant and materials,
- iii) storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development,
- iv) the erection and maintenance of security hoarding including decorative displays and facilities for public viewing, where appropriate,
- v) wheel washing facilities,
- vi) measures to control the emission of dust and dirt during construction,
- vii) a scheme for recycling/disposing of waste resulting from demolition and construction works.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety & convenience and neighbour amenities.
Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP3 & CP6.

5. No development shall take place until full details of the drainage system for the site have been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The details shall include:

- 1) Calculations indicating the Greenfield runoff rate from the site.
- 2) Full calculations demonstrating the capacity of attenuation features to cater for 1 in 100-year flood event with a 40% allowance for climate change and runoff controlled at Greenfield rates, or preferably better.
- 3) If connection to an existing surface water sewer is proposed, we need to understand why other methods of the SuDS hierarchy cannot be implemented and see confirmation from the utilities supplier that their system has got capacity and the connection is acceptable.
- 4) Groundwater monitoring confirming seasonal high groundwater levels in the area.
- 5) A drainage strategy plan indicating the location and sizing of SuDS features, with the base of any SuDS features located at least 1m above the seasonal high water table level.
- 6) Details demonstrating how any SuDS for this development would be managed throughout the lifespan of the development and who will be responsible for maintenance.

The approved scheme shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the development and shall be maintained in the approved form for as long as the development remains on the site.

Reason: This is to prevent increased flood risk from surface water run-off. Relevant policy: NPPF (2024) Section 14 (Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change), Core Strategy policy CP1 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC09 and CC10.

6. Prior to the occupation of the development, a Travel Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The travel plan shall include a programme of implementation and details of drop-offs and pick-ups for pupils of the SEND unit hereby approved. The travel plan shall be fully implemented, maintained and reviewed as so-approved.

Reason: Reason: In the interests of Highway Safety. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP6.

7. No part of any building(s) hereby permitted shall be occupied or used until the vehicle parking and turning space has been provided in accordance with the approved plans. The vehicle parking and turning space shall be retained and maintained in accordance with the approved details and the parking space shall remain available for the parking of vehicles at all times and the turning space shall not be used for any other purpose other than vehicle turning.

Reason: To provide adequate off-street vehicle parking and turning space and to allow vehicles to enter and leave the site in a forward gear in the interests of road safety and convenience and providing a functional, accessible and safe development and in the interests of amenity. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP3 & CP6 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC07.

8. No building shall be occupied until secure and covered parking for cycles has been provided in accordance with the approved drawing (s)/details. The cycle parking/storage shall be permanently so- retained for the parking of bicycles and used for no other purpose.

Reason: In order to ensure that secure weather-proof bicycle parking facilities are provided so as to encourage the use of sustainable modes of travel. Relevant policy: NPPF Section 9 (Sustainable Transport) and Core Strategy policies CP1, CP3 & CP6 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC07.

9. a) No development or other operations shall take place except in complete accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement (JOMAS, January 2026, Ref: P6974J3321z), hereinafter referred to as the Approved Scheme.

b) No operations shall commence on site in connection with development hereby approved (including any tree felling, tree pruning, demolition works, soil moving, temporary access construction and or widening or any other operation involving use of motorised vehicles or construction machinery) until the tree protection works required by the Approved Scheme are in place on site.

c) No excavations for services, storage of materials or machinery, parking of vehicles, deposit or excavation of soil or rubble, lighting of fires or disposal of liquids shall take place within an area designated as being fenced off or otherwise protected in the Approved Scheme.

d) The fencing or other works which are part of the Approved Scheme shall not be moved or removed, temporarily or otherwise, until all works including external works have been completed and all equipment, machinery and surplus materials removed from the site, unless the prior approval in writing of the local planning authority has first been sought and obtained.

Reason: To secure the protection throughout the time that the development is being carried out of trees shrubs or hedges growing within or adjacent to the site which are of amenity value to the area, and to allow for verification by the local planning authority that the necessary measures are in place before development and other works commence Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC03 and TB21.

10. No work relating to the development hereby approved, including works of demolition or preparation prior to building operations, shall take place other than between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00 Monday to Friday and 08:00 to 13:00 Saturdays and at no time on Sundays or Bank or National Holidays.

Reason: To protect the occupiers of neighbouring properties from noise and disturbance outside the permitted hours during the construction period. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP1 and CP3 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC06.

11. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the energy and sustainability measures set out in the Sustainability Statement Issue 01 (January 2026) prepared by Ingleton Wood and shall achieve a minimum 39% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions compared to the Part L 2021 target emission rate. The approved measures shall be installed prior to the development being first brought into use and shall be retained and maintained for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: To ensure developments contribute to sustainable development. Relevant Policies: Chapter 14 of the NPPF (Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change), Wokingham Borough Core Strategy Policy CP1, Managing Development Delivery Local Plan Policies CC04, the Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (2010), and the Climate Change Interim Policy Position Statement.

Informatives

1. As of 2nd April 2024, a 10% Biodiversity net gain (BNG) for minor developments is required under a statutory framework introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by the Environment Act 2021). Under the statutory framework for biodiversity net gain, this planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition that the biodiversity gain objective is met (the biodiversity gain condition).

The biodiversity gain condition is a pre-commencement condition: once planning permission has been granted, a Biodiversity Gain Plan must be submitted and approved by the planning authority before commencement of the development.

2. The applicant is reminded that this approval is granted subject to conditions which must be complied with prior to the development starting on site. Commencement of the development without complying with the pre-commencement requirements may be outside the terms of this permission and liable to enforcement action. The information required should be formally submitted to the Council for consideration with

the relevant fee. Once the details have been approved in writing the development should be carried out only in accordance with those details. If this is not clear please contact the case officer to discuss.

3. The applicant is reminded that, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to (amongst other things): deliberately capture, disturb, injure, or kill great crested newts; damage or destroy a breeding or resting place; intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a resting or sheltering place. Planning permission for a development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation. Should great crested newts be found at any stage of the development works, then all works should cease, and a professional and/or suitably qualified and experienced ecologist (or Natural England) should be contacted for advice on any special precautions before continuing, including the need for a licence.

4. The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received. This planning application has been the subject of positive and proactive discussions with the applicant in terms of:

- Additional information with regards to vehicle trips to and from the school as a result of the proposal.

The decision to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in the NPPF is considered to be a positive outcome of these discussions.

BJC

Recommendation and conditions/reasons agreed:

Date: 18.06.26

REMEMBER - The earliest date for a decision on this application is: **25 March 2026**