

**DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT FOR
BIRCHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
LYTHAM ROAD
FALLOWFIELD
MANCHESTER
M14 6PL**

**NEW ACCESS RAMP, STEPS AND CONIPAVE SURFACING TO PARENTS
PUPILS AND PUPILS ENTRANCE**

Introduction

Birchfields Primary School is a large 3 form entry Primary School located at the junction of Birchfields Road and Lytham Road in the Fallowfield District of South Manchester. Its Parents and Pupils Access is located on Lytham Road, whereby entry onto the school campus is via a pair of pedestrian double gates. Immediately inside the gates the tarmacadam drops by approximately 450mm at a very sharp gradient, which fails to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act and Part M of the Building Regulations. The sharp gradient is particularly difficult to negotiate by wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs and has also been the result of accidents, particularly in periods of inclement weather.

Project details

The aim of the project is to provide a level landing area inside the gates and to provide a ramp of total length 8 metres and width 1.5 metres, with a level landing at the top and bottom, to provide a ramp with a gradient of 1 in 20 which complies fully with DDA requirements. There will also be 3 steps down with tactile paving strips at the top and bottom of the steps. The remainder of the area will be surfaced with Conipave Surfacing, which is a permeable paving for sustainable urban drainage solutions (SUDS). It is an ideal surface for areas used by wheelchairs and pushchairs and it provides a non-slip surface with a good level of grip resistance.

The existing tarmacadam to the areas of surfacing shown on Drawing No. BPS/RAMP21/JH/2 Rev A will be excavated, a MOT stone sub base will be installed with a sand bedding layer before the 35mm Conipave Surfacing will be laid. A copy of the Conipave brochure is enclosed with this application.

The ramp will be formed with paving flags on edge forming both sides with a Conipave Surface to the entire ramp and landing areas. The approximate line between the existing tarmacadam surfacing and the soft landscaped area between the tarmacadam and the boundary fencing will be used, including curving it around the tree as existing. The Conipave Surfacing will improve the supply of water to the tree roots.

The 3 steps down will all be formed with paving slabs and each will have a tread width of 450mm and a rise of 150mm. There will be a 400mm wide paved strip at the top and bottom of the steps, beyond which there will be 800mm wide blister tactile paving strips at both the top and bottom of the steps. The total width of the steps will be approximately 3252mm.

Balustrades formed with 42mm galvanised tubular steel will be installed along both sides of the ramp and staircase, with the top of the balustrade 900mm above the surface of the ramp and the line of nosings of the staircase. Handrails will project 300mm beyond changes of level at the top and bottom of the ramp.

The total area of resurfacing works is approximately 72 square metres, of which approximately 61 square metres will be Conipave Surfacing and approximately 11 square metres will be pavings in association with the steps and blister tactile paving.

Construction Method Statement

It is anticipated that the works will be undertaken during the school summer holiday period between late July and late August 2021. During this section of the works, the delivery of materials can be carried out at any time during normal working hours from Monday to Friday, as there will be no conflict between school traffic during this period.

Times of working will be during normal working hours Monday to Friday from 08.00 until 18.00, with possibility of Saturday morning working as a last resort.

In the area close to the tree the dig will be undertaken with hand tools in a methodical way with excavations kept to a minimum to remove existing edgings, install new flag on edge and the balustrades, which will minimise damaging tree roots.

It is anticipated that at the end of each day all gates to the school site will be locked which will minimise the risk of unauthorised access whilst the works are on site and there will be no combustible materials stored on site.

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