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Design and Access Statement to support the Planning Application for a proposed temporary single storey *Portakabin Ultima* building to be used as an Additional Classroom at North Manchester Community School for Girls, Brookside Road, Moston, Manchester, M40 9QJ

1 - Introduction

This Design and Access Statement (DAS) accompanies an application for the installation of a temporary *Portakabin Ultima* building to be used as an Additional Classroom at North Manchester Community School for Girls, Brookside Road, Moston, Manchester, M40 9QJ. This building is to be hired from *Portakabin Limited* for a period of three years. The DAS has been written to meet the requirements as set out in DCLG Circular 01/2006: Guidance on Changes to the Development Control System: Section 3.
This *Portakabin* building was chosen as it is a purpose-built, robust and attractive classroom building that offers a multi-functional and first-class working environment. It is a flexible solution that can be hired for the required time and removed at the end of that period with minimal impact on the surrounding environment.

2 - Design Principles and Concepts

2.1 – Use

The proposed *Portakabin Ultima* building is to be used as an Additional Classroom.. The school has been struggling to cope with the numbers of pupils and with the expected further increase in the new school year and changes to the curriculum the situation will only worsen. The *Portakabin* building will allow the school to expand quickly and provide a more effective classroom size. This temporary solution gives the school time to plan for permanent future development.
Access to the building will be via a Part M compliant ramp/step combination to be constructed by *Portakabin Total Solutions.*

2.2 – Amount

The proposed total floor area is 78.08m^2; this will provide the floor space required for an additional classroom and allow the school to cope with the increase in pupil numbers for the immediate future.

2.3 – Layout

The layout has been designed for the proposed Additional Classroom to be in close proximity to the existing school buildings allowing easy access for pupils.

2.4 – Scale

The *Portakabin Ultima* building is of a modular construction and has a total floor area of 78.08m^2. The overall size of the building is 12.23m x 6.87m with an overall height of 3.51m (see plan & elevation drawing). The proposed building is smaller in height than the existing school buildins and therefore does not dominate the area.

2.4 – Landscaping

The *Portakabin* building will be sited on a rough area of unused hardcore based land.

2.5 – Appearance

The *Portakabin Ultima* building is prefabricated in modules at *Portakabin Limited*, New Lane, Huntington, York. These modules fit together to create one large building of 12.23m x 6.87m. External walls and roof are constructed from steel faced composite panels with steel framework. The buildings have an external Light Grey colour scheme to fit in with most site applications.

The *Portakabin* building was chosen as it is a flexible solution that can be hired for the required time and removed at the end of that period with minimal impact on the surrounding environment.

3 – Access

3.1 – Vehicular and Transport Links

The site location is in a residential area and in close proximity to the local transport network. Access to the building is via a constructed timber ramp and step system with access from an existing school entrance. The proposed *Portakabin* building will have no impact on the current situation.

3.2 – Inclusive Access

The *Portakabin* building is for use by pupils and staff from North Manchester Community School for girls. Entrance into the building will be via a Part M compliant ramp/step combination to meet DDA requirements enabling all to enter and use the facility.