

Statement in Support of Planning Application: De Minimis Impact on Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

We submit this planning application with the assurance that the proposed development meets the criteria for De Minimis impact in relation to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

The project involves the installation of new play equipment within the rear garden of an existing Special Educational Needs (SEN) school. The additions include a trampoline, monkey bars, a summer house, and similar recreational structures designed to enhance the learning and physical development of the pupils.

Considerations:

1. **Limited Scope** – The installation is minor in scale and does not involve the removal of green space, mature vegetation, or natural habitats.
2. **Existing Usage** – The site is already designated as a play and recreation area, meaning the land use remains unchanged, without introducing new built development or increasing impermeable surfaces.
3. **No Net Loss of Biodiversity** – The project does not negatively impact existing biodiversity or ecological function; the open nature of the garden remains, supporting outdoor learning and environmental engagement.
4. **Positive Community Benefit** – The enhancements provide crucial therapeutic and developmental benefits for pupils, aligning with the educational and well-being objectives of the school.

Given these points, we respectfully assert that the BNG requirements should not apply or should be considered negligible for this proposal, as the nature of the works does not introduce adverse ecological impacts.

We trust this submission demonstrates compliance with relevant planning principles and look forward to your favourable consideration of this application.