



Design and access statement

**Blackthorns Community Primary Academy, Blackthorn Close, Linfield,
West Sussex, RH16 2UA**

July 2025

1.0 Introduction

The application is to further extend the time scale for the temporary relocatable classroom on site at Blackthorns Community Primary Academy. The temporary relocatable classroom was granted planning permission on 22nd April 2015 and was extended by virtue of a Planning Application dated 20th January 2020 ref: WSCC/075/19 which subsequently expired 20th January 2025. A further period of five years is now sought for the siting and school use of this relocatable classroom unit as it is essential for the continued current pupil intake.

2.0 Education

When the Academy identifies a need for additional school places there are two means by which these can be provided; through temporary or permanent accommodation. Where pupil growth is identified as a short-term issue, a 'bulge' in pupil numbers, the Academy will use temporary accommodation to ensure it can react quickly to provide additional places in areas of pressure. Using temporary accommodation is a recognised way of providing additional places in the short term and it provides a valuable and flexible resource to enable the Academy to fulfil its obligations.

Capital funding being currently unavailable, the continued use of the temporary provision is unfortunately the only current mechanism by which the Academy can continue with the facilities currently offered and meet its obligations.

3.0 Justification

There is no particular expected growth or shrink in terms of pupil numbers at the academy. Indications from the local authority admissions department and the current rate of building within the local area suggest that the Academy will continue to be full with waiting lists in many year groups.

The temporary relocatable classroom currently accommodates classes used throughout the day by pupils. It is also used to house the academy's breakfast and after school wrap-around care, to meet the demands of work and family life. The temporary classroom is also used for various after school clubs and music lessons at different times of the week. The amount of available space at Blackthorns Community Primary Academy is limited and, as a result, the staff make use of all areas at all times. The loss of the temporary relocatable would be detrimental to parents, pupils and staff at the Academy.

4.0 Associated Works

This application is for renewal only and therefore there is no associated works required.