

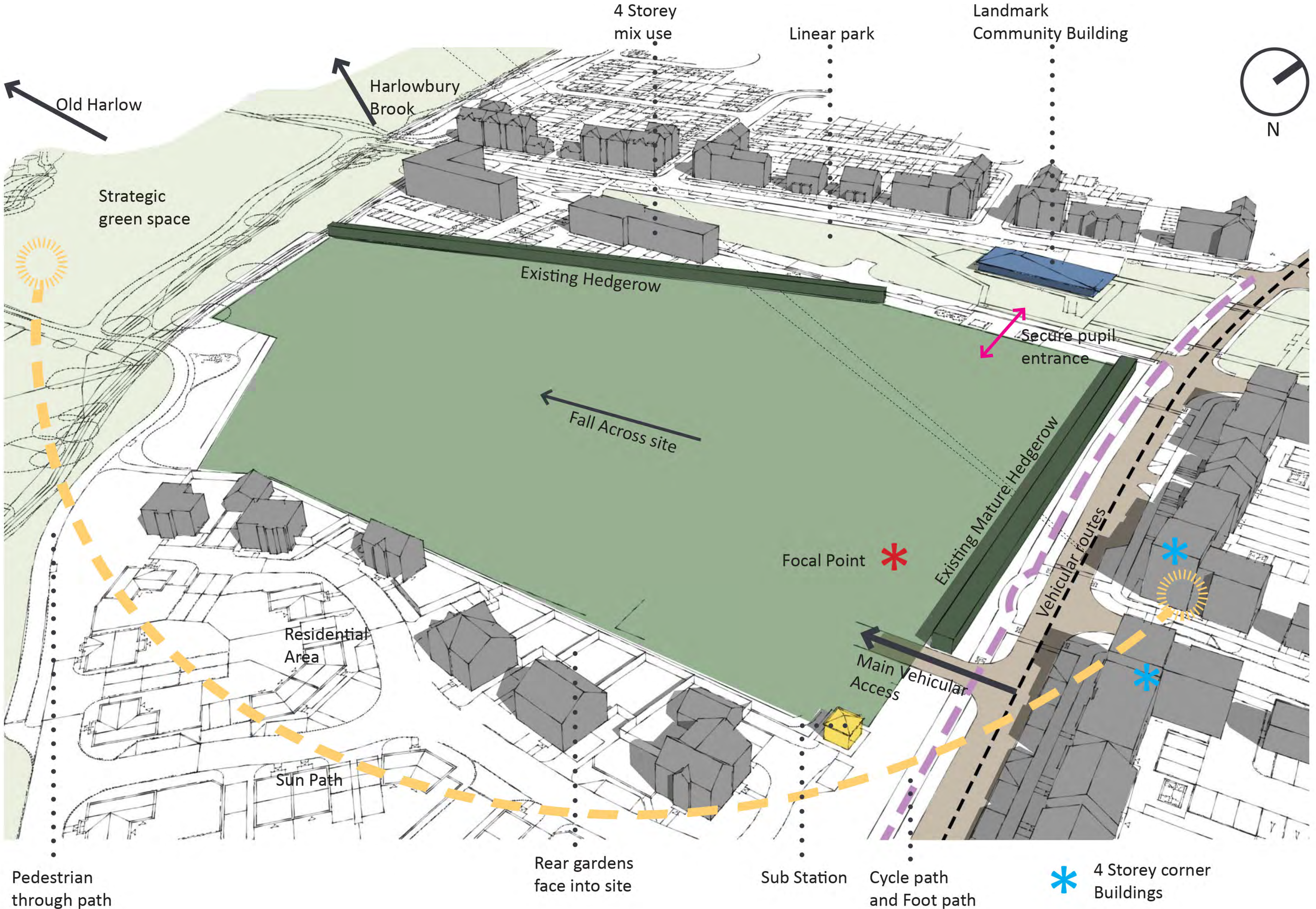
SITE ANALYSIS

The proposed site is currently undeveloped and designated for a primary school as a part of a larger housing development scheme in Harlowbury.

The proposed primary school will replace the existing school and service the surrounding residential area.

The immediate site context:

- The northern boundary, beyond the retained mature hedgerow is the linear park running east-west across the development, with some mix-used development immediately north, approximately 3-4 storeys high.
- The site is bounded on the east by the retained mature hedgerow, the primary spine road, 3-4 storey blocks of flats immediately opposite and lower 2 storey houses adjacent to those.
- To the south is a smaller, domestic scale housing cluster with a maximum height of 2 storeys, the garden of the properties form part of the southern boundary of the school site.
- The western boundary leads to the SUDs drainage lagoons and the existing town beyond.
- The proposed site is well connected by cycle and pedestrian routes that promote alternate means of access.



SITE LAYOUT

The proposed building sits behind the mature hedge line that forms the eastern boundary, with the proposed design orientated north-south, mirroring the line of the housing opposite.

The massing is determined by the internal use of the spaces and an efficient building footprint.

Classrooms are accessed via a central corridor, with Key Stage 1 pupils on the ground floor and Key Stage 2 on the first floor. This allows direct access from Key Stage 1 classrooms out to the playground, which was a key design requirement.

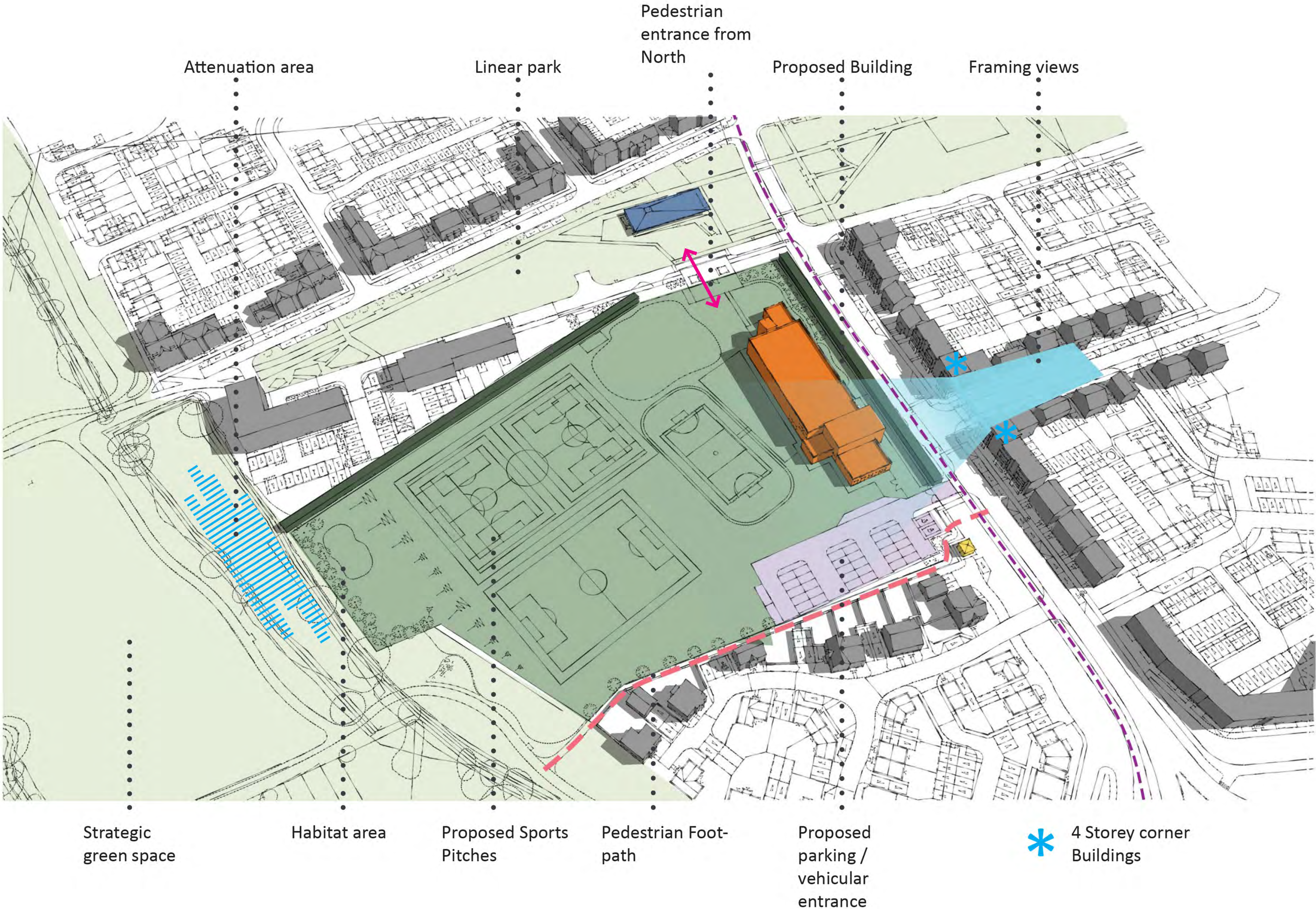
A two-storey building design approach was chosen as it creates more usable outside green spaces and allows a more flexible approach to potential future expansion.

Provision is made within the site boundaries for:

- hard & soft play space,
- a separate play area for reception classes,
- a single pedestrian access into the site,
- and a playing field that can be marked out for a variety of sports, in particular; football, rounders and athletics.

Pedestrians and vehicles have separate entrances to the site, reducing the chance of conflict and ensuring the safety of pupils entering and leaving the school site.

The wider site has strategic pedestrian and cycle routes to the north and south of it and the proposed school site layout allows easy connection to those, while balancing the needs of the differing users.



HARLOWBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL



DESIGN CONCEPT

The design concept incorporates the key elements of the design code and includes the school specific requirements; a story telling school with the library at the heart of the design.

The 'learning avenue' is central to the circulation space creating a multi-functional area and making best use of otherwise underused circulation spaces.

Roof lights ensure natural daylight can penetrate deep into the center of the building.

All KS1 classrooms are on the ground floor, with direct access to external areas and the playground allowing for easy supervision.

Reception classrooms can be accessed from the outside and have a separate playing space.

Toilets can be accessed directly from the playground during break time and open plan toilets are provided on the first floor.

The speech and learning area is central to the design of the school but also allows a degree of privacy for those using it.

The classrooms are uniform in shape and maximise daylight without causing glare on teaching walls.

The kitchen, hall, administration and 'community use' side of the building is separate to the teaching side, allowing potential use of the hall out of school hours without compromising the security of the teaching spaces.

The functional spaces are closest to the road access allowing for deliveries etc to operate efficiently without disrupting the day to day operation of the school



First floor plan



Ground floor plan

SITE LOGISTICS

- Secure fence line installed by developer under S106 prior to our commencement.
- Site prepared by developer under S106, field seeded at week 20 to maximise growing season so ready for September 2021.
- Sub-base to paving installed early and used for vehicular movement & material storage
- Enhanced sub-base for crane & piling rig use.
- Superstructure & envelope complete by week 39, enabling completion of external works finishes & landscaping.
- Drainage installed early to manage surface water and clay conditions.
- Pedestrian access avoiding delivery drop-off area. Turnstile access into construction zone.
- Space for 20 vehicles during construction. Car Park installed to base course by week 8.
- Accommodation visible to visitors from car park and public highway. Removed from site at week 50 so landscaping can be completed for handover.
- Gateman controlled deliveries. Waiting zone for deliveries to avoid vehicles waiting and blocking public highway.
- Segregated pedestrian access direct to site office to ensure signing in and inductions.
- Location of sign boards demonstrating to general public on-going works and key personnel. Warning signs each side of crossover warning general public of vehicles turning.
- No "Right Turn's" in or out of site onto busy Aspen Way. Improves safety and prevents delays to buses, developers construction traffic, potential house buyers and local residents.



APPEARANCE

The area design code states the school site should be at the heart of the area and it should express the identity of the wider development.

The east elevation is critical in connecting to the central linear park.

The design should be contemporary, with a muted colour palette reflecting the surroundings, with a focus on colour and texture.

Chosen materials should reflect responsible choices in terms of sustainability, long term maintenance and a natural appearance.



North elevation

South elevation



East elevation



West elevation

APPEARANCE

The choice of materials has been derived from the surrounding area, the colours are a pared down natural palette, each with a different texture, they are attractive but durable and easy to maintain.

A pale tumbled brick, a warm vertical timber board and a smooth grey render or board.

Brick is used throughout the wider development, the vertical timber is reminiscent of trees while adding warmth to the facade, finally the render or board adds a contemporary feel.



HARLOWBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

