



**ILSINGTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Ilsington, Newton Abbot, Devon**  
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**An exciting new development**  
**for**  
**Ilsington C of E Primary School**

Dear Parents, Carers & Neighbours,

I am writing to tell you about some exciting changes that are to be made to our village school.

First, I need to explain why change is needed especially if you haven't seen inside the school for years. As you know our school is housed within a lovely Victorian building and the children benefit in many ways from its comforting character and attractive grounds. However, there are some practical issues that we need to address. Our school building is not ideally suited to providing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning our children need. At present we struggle to provide places for sheltered all-weather learning and our toilet facilities need to be improved to meet the needs of all children. Furthermore, we would like all children to be able to access toilets without having to leave the main building. We need to ensure that we can provide an environment that is fit for purpose and which continues to attract the numbers of pupils needed to ensure we remain viable moving into the future.

So, earlier this year, the Link Academy Trust on taking on the school, began to look for ways to finance improvements to the school environment. I am delighted to say that they were successful in securing a government building grant of £360,000 which is to be spent on improving our school. Furthermore, planning permission has been granted and an extension and redevelopment of part of the site has been agreed. The improvements will be hidden from the road and are subtly designed to work in harmony with the original build.

Now that we know that all the finance and planning has been agreed and that this redevelopment really is going to happen, a timetable has been drawn up and the work will be done as promptly and efficiently as possible. I will be working closely with the architect and the contractors to ensure the least disruption possible to both the school and its surrounding community and I shall do my best to keep you all informed as we progress through the different stages of the project together.

The plans involve alterations to two classrooms known as Owlacombe (shown on the plans as Yrs 1&2) and Middlecott (shown on plans as FSU). These alterations will involve some inconvenience and noise on site in these areas over the Spring and Summer terms. Meanwhile, the youngest children will be able to continue in their own classrooms with minimal disruption to their usual routines.

The Reading House, (marked in red on the plans), the wooden play equipment and the soft floor covering around it will all be will protected from harm throughout the building process and will continue to be used once the building work is completed.

During the building work, in order to provide the calm and security needed by the children in Middlecott and Owlacombe, we will be moving both classes to the village hall throughout both terms. This will ensure they are safely away from the building work and able to access a large, safe, play space at break times too. (We will be locking the gates to enable their safe use of the space behind the hall during school hours).

We will set up both classes in the two spaces the hall provides and will take the children along to the hall to allow the children time to experience using their new space this half term. During the time children spend using the rooms at the village hall, either Mrs Laura Billington or I will be leading across the whole unit supporting Miss Willis and working with a team of teaching assistants and a teaching student.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people running the Village Hall for enabling us to use this super facility and for the kindness and generosity of their dealings with the school. I'd also like to thank the village shop in advance and all of you who are living close by, of this new build starting. Thank you all for helping us to enable these changes to be made to the benefit of the children. I will keep in touch over the weeks and months ahead and I will do everything I can to minimise the disruption to your daily lives. I will keep you informed throughout the whole process and very much hope that together we can work to ensure the best possible outcome for



all children during what will be a memorable and I hope a fun learning experience for all those involved. I will work together with you, the staff team and the children to address any issues that arise, and I look forward to seeing the finished result next summer.

I will follow up this information pack to yourselves with special whole school and class assemblies to enable the children to have the information they need. We will then give them opportunities to visit the village hall together and begin to experience how it will be set out each day and how their routines will work in January.

We want to give people chance to ask questions or queries that they may have in connection to the building work that will be taking place. I will be available as usual on the school gate to chat about this new development with parents and carers who are on the school run. I will also be offering all families and neighbours of the school opportunity to meet online this week. As we are unable to hold public meetings at present, I be holding two Zoom meetings to enable families and neighbours of the school to talk directly to myself and the Link's Business Manager Mr Matt Matthew. (Mr Matthew has been involved in the process of organising this redevelopment of the building from the beginning of the project). We will be holding meetings on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm and on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm**. We will send out details of the Zoom meeting by email to the families of the pupils and to the Parish Council. If you are a neighbour of the school and would like to take part too, please don't hesitate to contact the school with your contact details on Tel: 01364 661208 or via email, [adminilsington@thelink.academy](mailto:adminilsington@thelink.academy)

I look forward to hearing from you in the future if you have any questions or queries and hope that you all enjoy the week ahead.

Kind regards

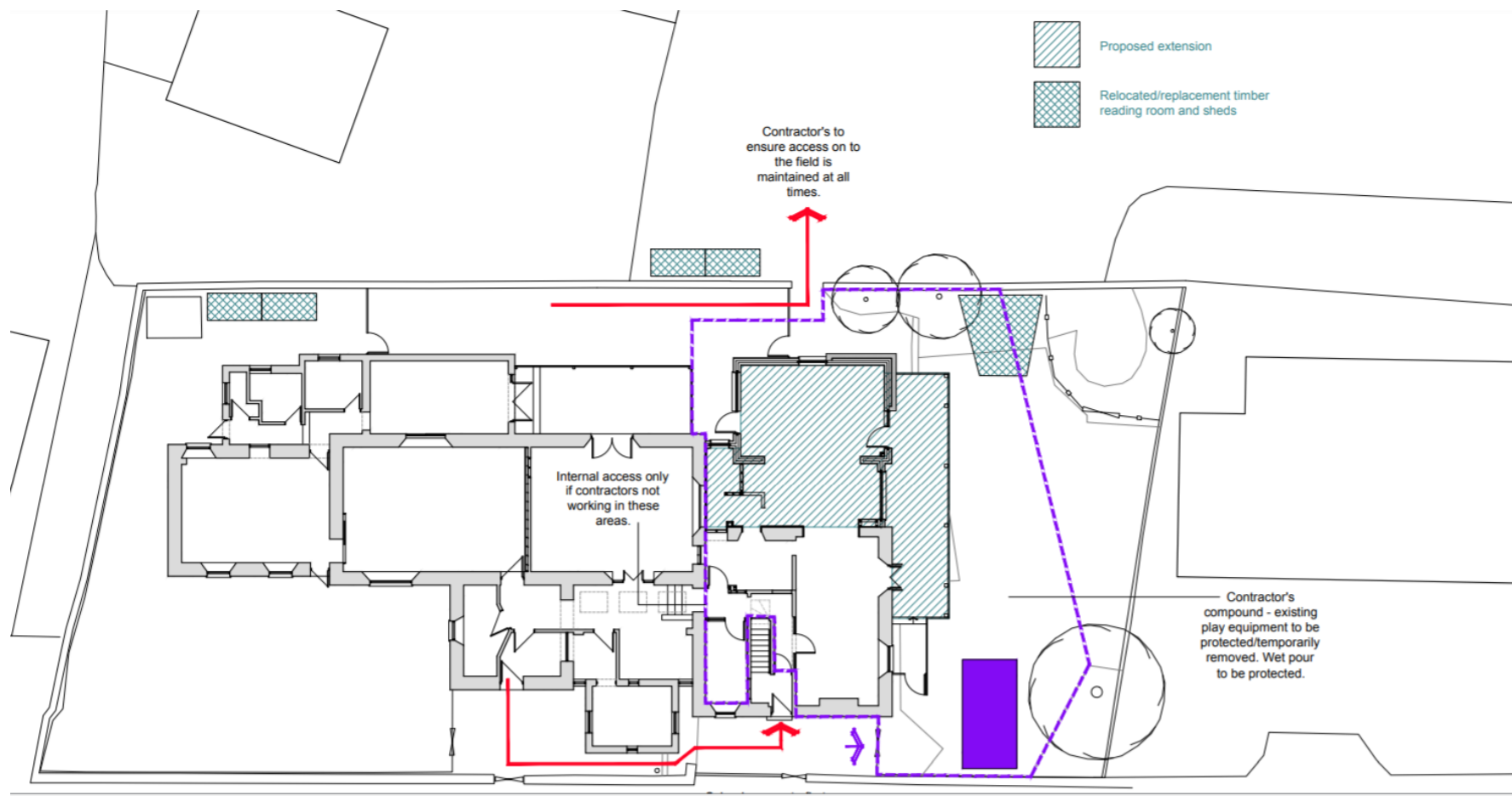
*Sam McCarthy-Patmore*

Academy Head

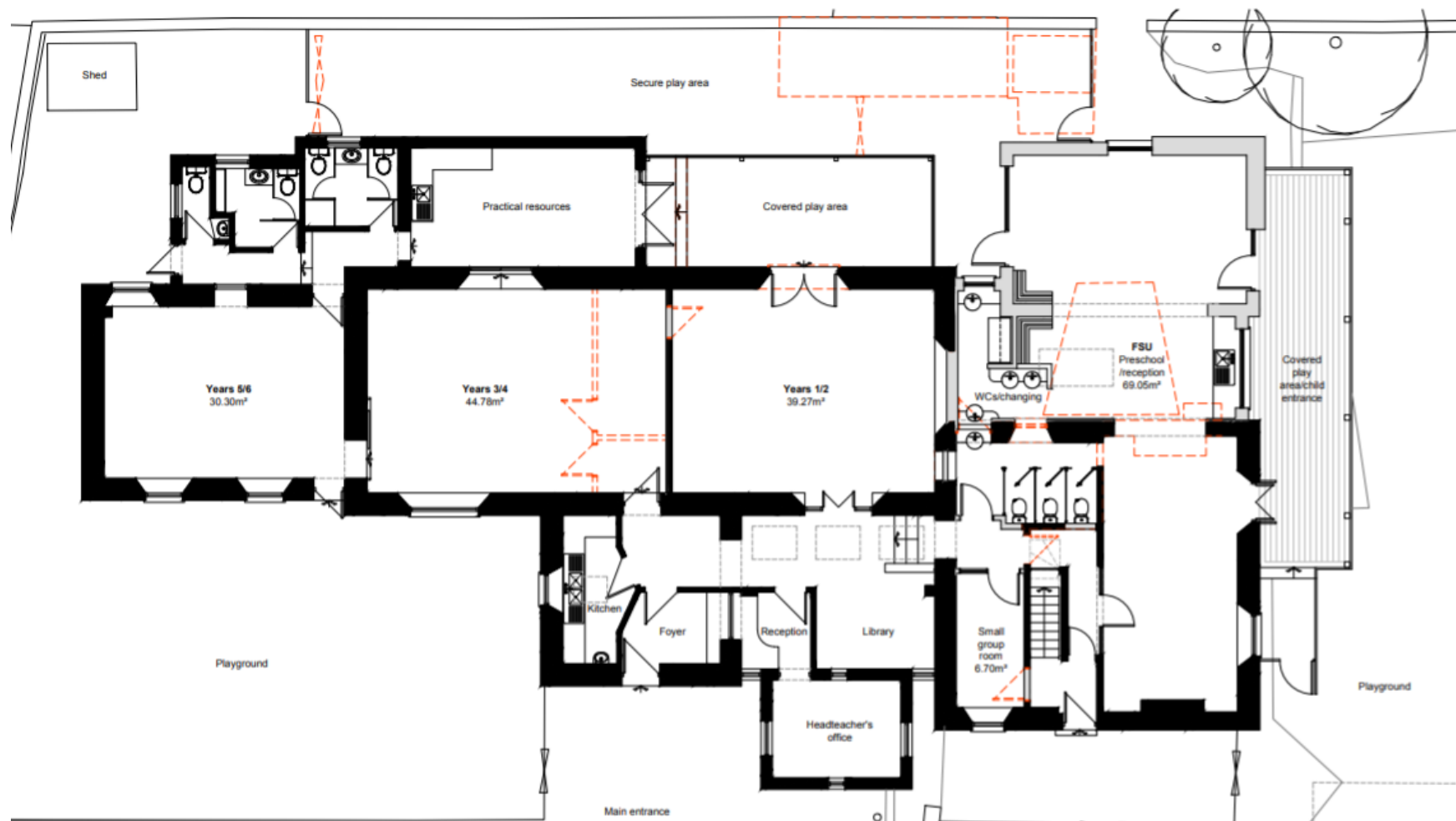
Ilslington C of E Primary School



Plans for extension to improve KS1 & Early Years provision and to improve toilet facilities at Ilington CE Primary School. This design shows the extension leading out from current Middlecott classroom. The shaded trapezium represents the Reading Room which will be moved safely aside during the build and reinstated in the playground afterwards. This development includes new covered decking behind Owlacombe, accessible via French windows, which will be the new KS1 classroom.



Plan for extension overlaid on current footprint  
Note red outlines where reading house, stone buildings and current storage areas are.





Please note that all contractors involved with the building work on the Ilstington Primary School site have been asked to carefully timetable deliveries to afford transition times in the school day avoiding pick up and drop off times throughout the school day. We hope that this will help to avoid traffic congestion through the village and to prevent overcrowding around the school entrances. Contractors have been made aware of the nature of the quiet, local area and this is also reflected in the code of conduct which they have all signed.

### CHILD PROTECTION CODE OF CONDUCT WHEN UNDERTAKING WORKS AT SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

The building contractor named below will comply with this Code of Conduct, will induct all staff working on the site, include the Code in the Construction Phase Health and Safety Plan and/or Method of Work Statements and display it in office and welfare facilities on site.

The contractor will also comply with the School's Child Protection Procedures, which require that all operatives employed directly by the Main Contractor are DBS (Standard) checked, and that sub-contractor operatives are also DBS (Standard) checked. The Main Contractor will be required to adopt a formal Child Protection Policy for all operatives employed on site, at least equal to the requirements of the 'specimen' Policy shown below, and complete appropriate Risk Assessments prior to commencement of works on site.

### LINK ACADEMY TRUST CODE OF CONDUCT

The contractor, its staff, sub-contract staff and its visitors to the building site undertake to: -

1. Observe this Code at all times;
2. Stay within the confines of the agreed site or work area;
3. Sign-in each day (either in site hut or at School Reception as agreed);
4. Obtain consent from the Headteacher if access is required outside the area of work (which may also require a formal review of the Child Protection Risk Assessment);
5. Only use the agreed access routes;
6. Obtain consent from the Headteacher if alternative access routes are required (which may also require a formal review of the Child Protection Risk Assessment);
7. Avoid contact with children without School supervision;
8. If spoken to by a child please be polite but minimise conversation;
9. Do not engage in **any** physical contact with a child/youth (it could easily be misinterpreted or misconstrued);
10. Inappropriate language must never be used on site;
11. Dress appropriately and safely – avoid imagery or wording on clothing that is suggestive;
12. Keep staff informed of where you are and what you are doing;
13. Report any concerns to the Site Manager immediately (the Site Manager to inform the Headteacher or their representative);
14. Your address, telephone/mobile numbers or any other contact details must never be given to children;
15. Never arrange to contact or meet children either inside or outside School;
16. Do not offer to buy or sell items to children;
17. The School is a no smoking/vaping area;
18. Do not bring alcohol onto the School site;
19. Do not share food and drink with the children;
20. Remember that your actions, no matter how well intentioned, could be misinterpreted.

Signed: ..... Organisation: .....

Dated: .....

