

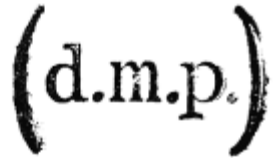
Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB

Green Infrastructure Statement

Produced by: Design Management Partnership Ltd.



Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB			designmanagementpartnership No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR +44(0)29 20644829 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com www.designmanagementpartnership.com	
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council				
DATE	12.03.26	REV			
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB		

Introduction

This Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared by Design Management Partnership Ltd. (DMP) on behalf of Merthyr Tydfil Council to support a planning application works at the Dowlais Primary School in Merthyr Tydfil.

The purpose of this document is to demonstrate how the development has been designed to protect, enhance, and integrate green infrastructure within the site and its surrounding landscape.

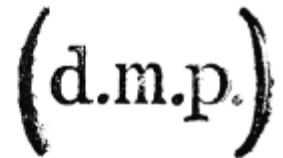
Green infrastructure refers to the network of natural and semi-natural features, including trees, hedgerows, open spaces, watercourses, and sustainable drainage systems, which deliver a wide range of environmental, social, and economic benefits. These features play an important role in supporting biodiversity, improving climate resilience, managing surface water, and enhancing the health and wellbeing of communities.

This statement outlines the existing green infrastructure within and around the site, identifies opportunities for enhancement, and explains how the proposed development will deliver an integrated and sustainable green infrastructure strategy.

Green Infrastructure Statement

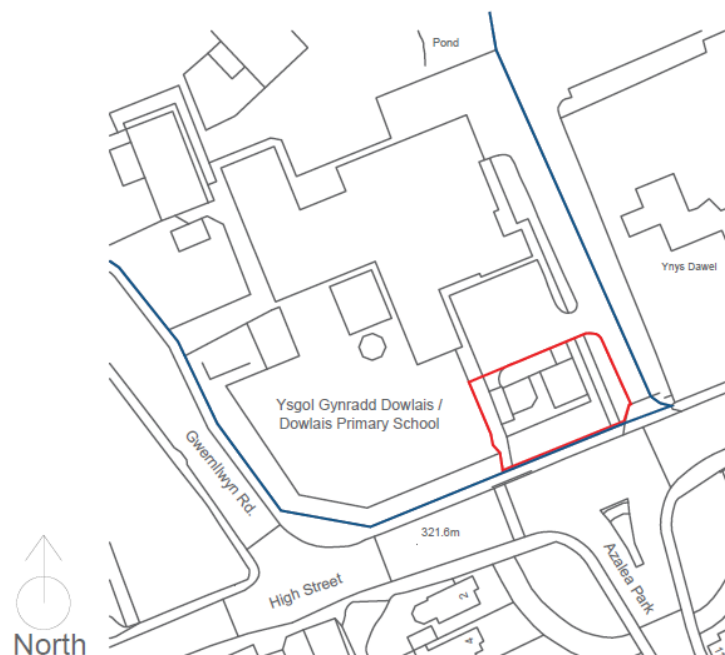
PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB		
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council		
DATE	12.03.26	REV	
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB

designmanagementpartnership
 No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR
 +44(0)29 20644829
 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com
 www.designmanagementpartnership.com



Existing Site

Dowlais Primary School is located on High Street in Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales. The site is situated within an established residential area. The current school grounds consist of the main school building, hard-standing playground area and surrounding green spaces used for recreation and outdoor learning. Existing green infrastructure on the site includes areas of grass, trees, boundary vegetation, and soft landscaping which contribute to biodiversity, surface water management, and the overall environmental quality of the site. The proposed site is located within school grounds off the High Street and comprises a detached, residential-scale building, along with surrounding landscaped areas, including grassed spaces and paved walkways.



Key:	
—	Site Boundary
—	Site Ownership Boundary

Site plan showing boundary line of the proposed works

Green Infrastructure Statement				
PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB			designmanagementpartnership No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR +44(0)29 20644829 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com www.designmanagementpartnership.com (d.m.p.)
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council			
DATE	12.03.26	REV		
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB	

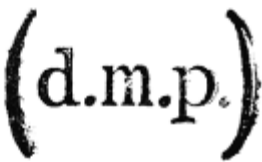


Image of the existing rear grass area proposed to be removed forming new resin bound accessible area
(Source: DMP photo 2025)



Green Infrastructure Statement			
PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB		
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council		
DATE	12.03.26	REV	
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB

designmanagementpartnership
No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR
+44(0)29 20644829
mail@designmanagementpartnership.com
www.designmanagementpartnership.com

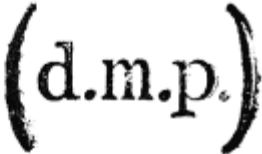




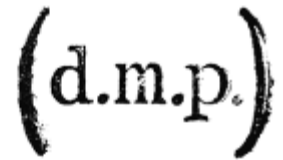
Image of the existing side grass area proposed to be partially removed to form a new paved pathway (Source: DMP photo 2025)



Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB		
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council		
DATE	12.03.26	REV	
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB

designmanagementpartnership
No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR
+44(0)29 20644829
mail@designmanagementpartnership.com
www.designmanagementpartnership.com



Proposed Works

The proposed works involve refurbishment of an existing Caretakers building into a multi-purpose space serving both the school and the wider local community and external works. This includes internal adaptations to provide a new accessible WC, kitchen and level access entrance to the rear to ensure the facility is fully inclusive for all users.

The external areas currently include a rear decking patio that requires upgrading, along with a grassed area and planting, as well as a paved walkway that wraps around to the side of the building. At the front, there is an existing asphalt pathway leading to the parking lot and adjacent grassed spaces. To the rear, there is also a garage with an access entrance and existing tree. Presently, the site has a residential character, and both the building and its landscape are underutilised by the school.

The proposed works aim to give the building a purposeful use by creating a functional space for the community. External improvements will provide accessible routes for people of all abilities and support a range of community and educational activities. The front of the site towards the High Street Road is predominantly grass area with trees creating a divide between the building and the main road providing visual interest.



Diagram showing existing situation

Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB		
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council		
DATE	12.03.26	REV	
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB

designmanagementpartnership
No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR
+44(0)29 20644829
mail@designmanagementpartnership.com
www.designmanagementpartnership.com

(d.m.p.)

The proposed works involve the removal of the existing rear decking, grass, and paved areas, which will be replaced with a permeable resin-bound surface. This will provide a durable, low-maintenance finish and improve accessibility for all users, including those with mobility impairments. Existing planting will be removed and replaced with new landscaping. To create a secure area, a new double-leaf standard hoop railing gate will be installed. These improvements will enable the courtyard to function as a practical and inclusive outdoor space for both school and community activities.

To the north, a section of the grassed area will be removed to create a new paved walkway, providing smooth access to the existing garage. Additionally, the existing southern fence will be replaced to match the fencing along High Street, creating a cohesive and better-integrated boundary with the existing surroundings.

Development Impact

The loss of grass area to the rear courtyard area. The loss of portion of grass area to the north of the site.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

The proposal involves the removal of the grassed area, decking patio, and paving slabs in the school's rear courtyard. The existing grass area is of limited ecological value, consisting of a simple maintained lawn with a basic planting border. To improve this, a new raised bed border will be created, featuring a sensitive planting scheme designed to attract and support wildlife, including pollinators. Proposed planting will include species such as lavender, foxglove, geranium, and a native wildflower mix, or other species as advised by a specialist. Furthermore additional planters are to be proposed on the south side to provide additional wildlife net gain.

The planting strategy has been designed to protect existing tree roots within the current border. As there are no significant shrubs, hedgerows, or diverse planting present, the works are expected to have minimal impact on the existing ecology of the site.

To compensate for the loss of the grassed area, the scheme incorporates measures to enhance the site's green infrastructure and biodiversity value. The proposed replacement surface will be a permeable resin-bound finish, allowing rainwater to infiltrate naturally, supporting sustainable drainage, and reducing surface water runoff compared to conventional impermeable surfaces.

Further biodiversity enhancements include the installation of bird and bat boxes on the building. These will provide additional nesting and roosting opportunities for local wildlife, helping to offset the loss of grassed space and contribute to biodiversity net gain. Bird boxes will be mounted at a minimum height of 2.5 metres and no higher than 5 metres, on elevations facing north, east, or west to avoid direct sunlight and overheating. These measures will enhance ecological connectivity, create long-term habitat opportunities for protected and priority species, and contribute positively to the overall biodiversity value of the site.

Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB		
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council		
DATE	12.03.26	REV	
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB

designmanagementpartnership
 No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR
 +44(0)29 20644829
 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com
 www.designmanagementpartnership.com

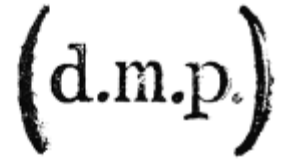
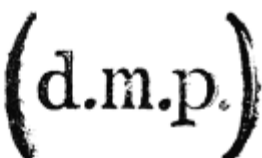


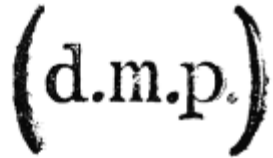
Diagram showing proposed enhancement measures

Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB			designmanagementpartnership No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR +44(0)29 20644829 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com www.designmanagementpartnership.com	
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council				
DATE	12.03.26	REV			
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB		

	Nestbox Company Eco Small Bird Box or similar		Nestbox Company Eco Bat Box or similar
	Long sleeper planters with native wildflowers or similar		

Green Infrastructure Statement

PROJECT	Dowlais Primary School, High St., Caeharris, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3HB			designmanagementpartnership No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR +44(0)29 20644829 mail@designmanagementpartnership.com www.designmanagementpartnership.com	
CLIENT	Merthyr Tydfil Council				
DATE	12.03.26	REV			
JOB No	25.031	DRAWN	EB		

Conclusion

The proposed works at Dowlais Primary School, comprises of internal refurbishment and external removal of the rear grass and patio area as well as improving current pathways to the north of the site. These changes represent modest interventions that will enhance the functionality of the site as a community facility.

Although the grass and patio area is proposed to be removed, the scheme will provide new opportunities for nesting and roosting species within the site and will contribute to the ecological enhancement of the school grounds. While the existing grassed area has limited ecological value, the incorporation of permeable surfacing and wildlife boxes will help ensure that the development delivers a modest but meaningful biodiversity benefit, in line with the principles of biodiversity net gain.