

Planting Strategy

Many of the soft features in the proposed scheme are multi-functional providing an opportunity for the creation of wildlife pockets, improved amenity values and engaging social spaces for the pupils.

Multi-stemmed birch trees and ornamental bed planting have been incorporated into the development to improve amenity, and soften the appearance of the fence lines required to maintain controlled access /privacy. These trees provide enhanced compensation for the loss of poor quality trees and vegetation adjacent the existing School - to be removed to allow access to the new LRB accommodation. Species selection is to be suited to the wetter / damper soils of the site and ensure that they are non harmful and appropriate for a primary school with ALN provision.

For the wildflower pockets, mixes provided by Emorsgate Seeds, or equal and approved, for example EM1 or EM2 General Meadow Mixtures or EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture would be suitable. Similarly for the swale, Emorsgate provides a wetland mix: EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wetlands.

For these wildlife enhancement target areas, it is important to incorporate a range of wildflowers and grass species, this will ensure any wildflower / meadow areas are beneficial to the wildlife, as well as aesthetically pleasing, and / or function as a nature based SuDs asset.

A list of suitable plant species would be:

Habitat Enhancement

Tree Planting	Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
	Downy birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>
Grasses, Sedges & Rushes	Tufted hair grass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
	Purple moor grass	<i>Molinia caerulea</i>
	Tall fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>
	Lesser pond sedge	<i>Carex acutiformis</i>
	Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Wildflowers & Perennials	Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Meadowsweet	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
	Marsh marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
	Yellow iris	<i>Iris pseydacorus</i>
	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
	Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
	Ragged robin	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>
	Small scabious	<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>
	Hemp agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>
	Devil’s-bit scabious	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>
	Betony	<i>Stachys officinalis</i>
	Bird’s foot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
	False goat’s beard	<i>Astilbe spp</i>
	Perennial phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
	Plantain lily	<i>Hosta spp</i>
Shrubs	Osier willow	<i>Salix viminalis</i>
	Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
	Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
	Guelder rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
	Alder buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnyus</i>
	Downy birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>
	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>

There are three main types of habitat enhancements that have been considered for incorporation within the new development to the northern section of the site:

- 1. Hedgehog Houses - Vivara Pro Woodstone Hedgehog House or Riverside Woodcraft Eco Hedgehog House.
- 2. Wild Corners - patches of long, natural vegetation with leaf and log piles (which provide foraging and shelter).
- 3.Bird / Bat Boxes