

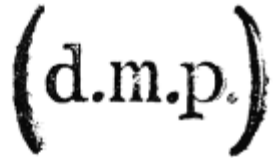
Troedyrhiw Community Primary School, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 4JQ

# Green Infrastructure Statement

**Produced by:** Design Management Partnership Ltd.



## Green Infrastructure Statement

|         |                                                    |       |    |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------|-------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PROJECT | Troedyrhiw Community Primary School Merthyr Tydfil |       |    | <b>designmanagementpartnership</b><br>No.2 Centre Court, Pontypridd, CF37 5YR<br>+44(0)29 20644829<br>mail@designmanagementpartnership.com<br>www.designmanagementpartnership.com |  |
| CLIENT  | Merthyr Tydfil Council                             |       |    |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
| DATE    | 30.04.26                                           | REV   | A  |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                     |
| JOB No  | 25.032                                             | 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 Troedyrhiw Community 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.

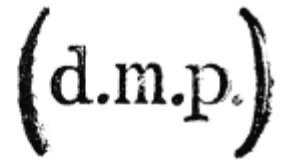
Green infrastructure refers to the network of natural and semi-natural features, including trees, hedgerows, open spaces, watercourses, and sustainable drainage systems, which deliver a wide range of environmental, social, and economic benefits. These features play an important role in supporting biodiversity,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

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## Existing Site

The Troedyrhiw Community Primary School is located on Archer Street in the village of Troed-y-rhiw, Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales. The school serves a residential catchment within an established urban village setting on the outskirts of the principal town of Merthyr Tydfil. The surrounding area encompasses local amenities, community spaces, and established neighbourhood streets.

Topographically, the broader area of Troed-y-rhiw sits within a valley landscape typical of the region, with higher ground to the north and the River Taff flowing through nearby communities. The school's immediate setting is generally flat and urban in character, bounded by residential streets and community land uses



|                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Key:</b>                         |                         |
| <span style="color: red;">—</span>  | Site Boundary           |
| <span style="color: blue;">—</span> | Site Ownership Boundary |

Site plan showing boundary line of the proposed works

| Green Infrastructure Statement |                                                    |       |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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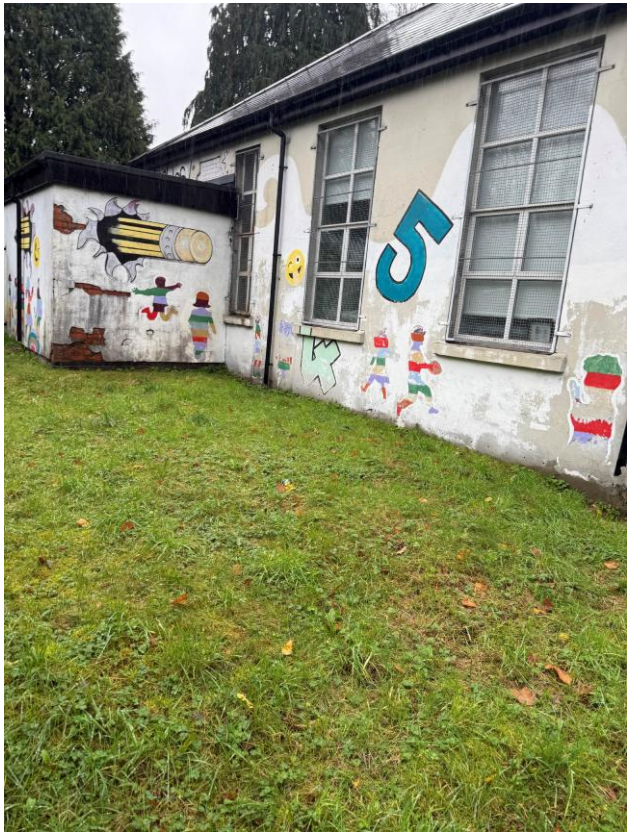
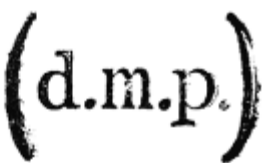


Image of the existing rear grass area proposed to be removed (Source: DMP photo 2025)



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## Proposed Works

The proposed works involve the conversion of an existing school room within Troedyrhiw Community Primary School block into a multi-purpose space to serve both the school and the wider local community. This includes internal adaptations to provide a new accessible WC and level access entrances to ensure the facility is fully inclusive for all users.

Externally, the school block in question features a rear grassed courtyard, currently enclosed by a metal gate and fencing along the boundary with the public footpath. At present, the courtyard is not directly accessible from the building and is underutilised by the school. The proposed works aim to enhance the functionality of this space by improving access from the new multi-purpose room, creating a safe and usable external area that can support a range of community and educational activities. The courtyard currently comprises grass only, with no existing shrubs or hedges. The front of the site is predominantly asphalted, with existing trees located around the central courtyard providing amenity and visual interest.

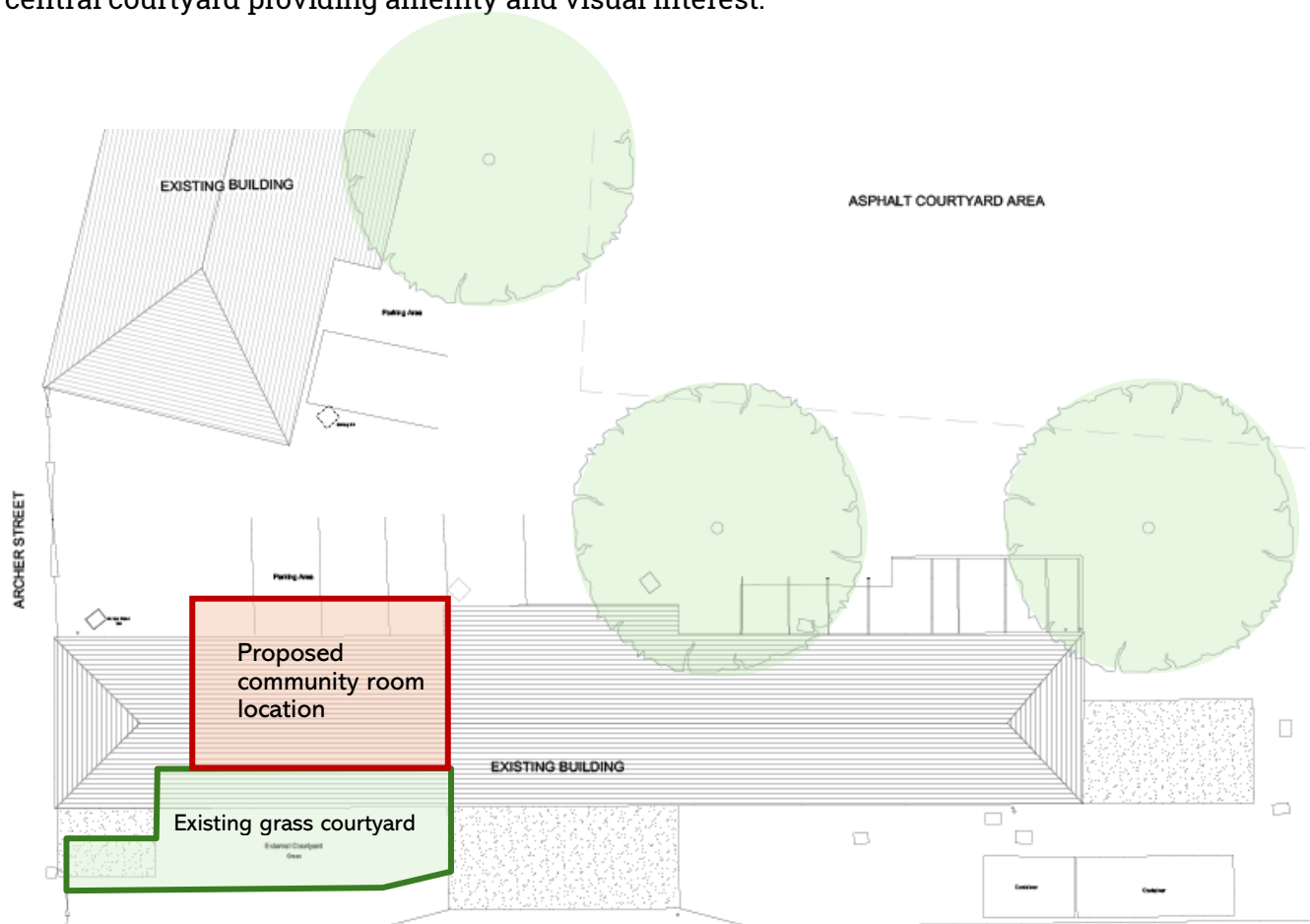
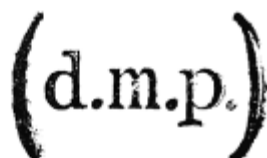


Diagram showing existing situation

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The proposed works will remove the existing grass surface and replace it with a permeable resin-bound surface, providing a durable and low-maintenance finish that will improve accessibility for all users, including those with mobility impairments.

A new rear door will be installed to allow direct access from the proposed multi-purpose community space into the courtyard. To ensure the area can be safely used while maintaining appropriate site security, the courtyard will be subdivided with a new metal fence and gate, creating a secure and controlled external space associated with the building. These works will allow the courtyard to function as a practical and inclusive outdoor area for both school and community activities.

### **Development Impact**

The loss of grass area to the rear of the existing school block. No other external works proposed.

### **Mitigation and Enhancement Measures**

The proposal aims to remove a grassed area of the rear courtyard of the school. This grass area is currently of limited ecological value, consisting of a simple maintained lawn with no associated shrubs, hedgerows, or diverse planting, therefore having minimal ecological value to the site.

However, to offset the loss of this grassed surface, the scheme incorporated measures to support and enhance the site's overall green infrastructure value.

The proposed replacement surface will be a permeable resin-bound finish, which will allow rainwater to infiltrate naturally into the ground, supporting sustainable drainage and helping to reduce surface water runoff when compared with traditional impermeable surfacing.

To further support biodiversity enhancement on site, bird & bat boxes will be installed on the existing mature trees within the site as part of the enhancement measures. These features will provide additional nesting and roosting opportunities for local wildlife, helping to offset loss of glass space and contribute to Net Benefit for Biodiversity. Bird boxes will be installed at an appropriate height to maximise suitability and protection from disturbance. Each box will be mounted at a minimum height of 2.5 metres above ground level and no higher than 5 metres. To avoid excessive exposure to direct sunlight and overheating, bird boxes will be positioned on elevations facing North, East, or West. The installation of bird and bat boxes will enhance ecological connectivity and provide long-term habitat opportunities for protected and priority species within the local area, contributing positively to the site's overall biodiversity value.

Furthermore, the proposal will see an enhancement through a sensitive planting scheme of wildlife attracting and pollenating plants in proposed planters. The planting scheme will include but not limited to plants such as lavender, foxglove, geranium and native wildflower mix or as specified by a planning specialist.

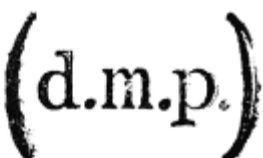
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Diagram showing proposed enhancement measures

|                                                                                     |                                                                          |                                                                                      |                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|  | Schwelger Sparrow Terrace or equivalent made from woodstone or woodcrete |  | Bat Box Beaumaris Midi WoodStone or equivalent |
|  | Long sleeper planters with native wildflowers or similar                 |                                                                                      |                                                |

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### Conclusion

The proposed works at Troedyrhiw Community Primary School, comprising internal alterations and the removal of the grassed area to the rear of the block, represent modest interventions that will enhance the functionality of the site as a community facility.

Although the grass 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 Net Benefit for Biodiversity.