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## Note

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*To:* County Planning – Katie Snell  
*From:* Highways Development Planning – Tim Wall  
*Our* TW/6/3/4/MIN (3182)  
*Reference:*  
*Copies to:*  
*Date:* 29 May 2012

*Subject:* TVE030 – HCC 2012/0127 – Vigo Infant School, Five Schools Campus, Vigo Road, Andover

Thank you for your consultation on the current planning application at the above site. The application is to supply, deliver and erect one double modular temporary classroom to provide two extra general teaching spaces. The proposal responds to an increase in local pupil demand, and is required to be in place prior to the start of the 2012 academic year.

Vigo Infant School is an existing school which forms part of a wider campus of five schools (Winton Secondary, Vigo Junior, Vigo Infant, Norman Gate Primary & The Mark Way Secondary Special School). Vigo Infant School currently provides primary education to around 180 pupils.

The Travel Plan submitted with the application identified that around 67% of pupils walk to school, with the remainder being driven to school. It is likely therefore that a significant proportion of additional pupils that will access the school will travel to school on foot. The school is located within a primarily residential area with good opportunities to access the school on foot, but the schools in the area do encounter some local transport issues which provide barriers to walking. The Travel Plan seeks to identify and address these issues and should be extended and re-visited to consider the additional travel demands that result from this development. The proposed additional teaching spaces could provide for some 60 additional pupils, of which some 20 pupils would be likely to arrive at school by car.

There are currently 10 full-time employees at the school site, and 11 part-time employees. The proposed development will increase the level of staff at the school by 2 further full-time employees.

The proposal to deliver a new temporary modular classroom does not propose any increase in the number of car parking spaces provided on-site. Whilst the application form identifies that there are currently 18 car parking

spaces, on site the parking areas for the Vigo Infant and Junior schools appear shared with no obvious demarcation. In total, there are 39 marked car parking bays within the car park. No information has been supplied with the application to identify the current level of parking demand on site, nor to reconcile existing arrangements with the adopted car parking standards.

At the time of visiting the site, all of these marked spaces were occupied and a further 10 cars were parked informally in the car park, at the end of and between rows. There is clearly significant pressure on this car park at times of the day.

The proposed development will increase the staff parking demand on the site, with both new staff members likely to drive to the school. There are however opportunities for staff members to park within local roads, particularly Vigo Road, without interfering with the safety of the surrounding highway network. Similarly, the occupancy of the adjacent car parks at the Acorns Nursey and Norman Gate school was lower, with a number of opportunities to park available.

The Travel Plan should be used as a tool to encourage staff to travel to school by sustainable modes where possible, or to share car journeys. Equally, the Travel Plan should be revisited with the other local schools to explore sharing of car parking provision where flexibility exists.

Overall, it is considered unlikely that the additional staff parking demand of 2 cars will materially impact on road safety.

There will be an impact of additional car journeys to the school as a result of the increased pupil capacity created by the proposed development. Based upon the Travel Plan, out of a potential 60 extra pupils, some 20 pupils may travel to school by car. The existing School Travel Plan should be reviewed and updated to accommodate the increase in pupils and to ensure the traffic impact is minimised.

Accident statistics for the latest 5 year period have been assessed which identify that 2 accidents occurred on Vigo Road, one '*serious*' and one resulting in '*slight*' injuries. The serious accident occurred some distance from the school at the junction of Vigo Road and London Road and involved a car hitting a cyclist. The other accident occurred close to the school at the junction of Vigo Road and Colenzo Drive. A car egressing Colenzo Drive collided with a cyclist entering Colenzo Drive. Whilst any accident is unfortunate, the assessment of accident statistics do not identify any trend or pattern that would be likely to be exacerbated by the proposed development.

No information has been supplied with the application to set out how the classrooms will be constructed or at what time of the year. If the classrooms are not to be constructed during a school holiday period then adequate measures should be put in place to ensure that safety of the site during the construction period, and any vehicle movements and deliveries restricted to times outside of school pick-up and drop-off. This should be conditioned.

## Recommendation

The application includes very little information, and does not provide adequate information to enable the proposals to be considered against current policies, particularly relating to parking. The impact of additional staff parking demand is however unlikely to materially impact on road safety, with informal parking opportunities available on local roads.

I raise **no objections** to the current planning application from a highways and transportation perspective, subject to the following condition.

Within three months of occupation of the development a review of the School Travel Plan should be undertaken to include measures to address the additional trips to be made as a result of the permitted development. This review shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and once approved shall be thereafter implemented.

Reason: *To minimise congestion and parking on the highway*

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me.