

PLANNING

23 APRIL 2025

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

**NEW DINING CANOPIES
ST AUGUSTINE'S RC HIGH SCHOOL, BILLINGTON**

Prepared By

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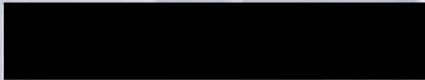
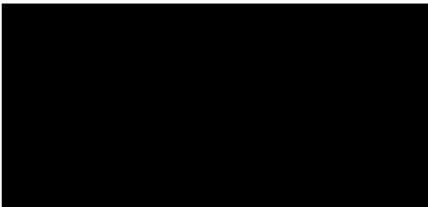


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AUTHORISATION



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and reviewed by:

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Revision	Stage	Author	Approved	Date
P01	Planning	DM	XX	23/04/25

1.0 OVERVIEW

This document has been produced by Rider Levett Bucknall Ltd on behalf of The Governors of St Augustine’s RC High School. This statement is to accompany the planning application for 4No. New Dining Canopies and 1No. Walkway Canopy located at St Augustine’s RC High School, Elker Lane, Billington to provide additional dining capacity.

Planning application reference:	<i>PP-13822449</i>
Site name:	<i>St Augustine’s RC High School</i>
Address (inc. postcode):	<i>Elker Lane, Billington, BB7 9JA</i>
Grid reference:	<i>372009 X (Eastings), 435565 Y (Northings)</i>
Existing use:	<i>Education</i>
Proposed use/works:	<i>Installation of 4No. Dining Canopies and 1No. Walkway Canopy</i>

The Governors of St Augustine’s RC High School has appointed Rider Levett Bucknall (RLB) to develop proposals for the installation of the new canopies outlined.

The proposed canopies will allow the school to provide covered dining space for pupils who are struggling to find locations to sit and eat at lunch and break times. The new facility is required to be fully operational by the end of the school holidays in August 2025.

The school has decided to proceed with appointing A & S Landscapes to supply and install the canopies with a GIA at 562.79m2. The solution will ensure that a permanent open-sided dining space is created for the sole purpose of school use.

1.1 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

This design and access statement will provide an overview of the proposed works and is to be read in conjunction with the supporting documentation as listed below:

Document reference	Title	Author
Planning drawings	- Location Plan 1:1250 - Existing Site Plan 1:500	

▪ Walkway Canopy Design Details	RLB / A & S
▪ Alfresco 1 Canopy Design Details	Landscapes
▪ Alfresco 2 Canopy Design Details	
▪ Panini Canopy Design Details	
▪ Allotment Canopy Design Details	

2.0 EXISTING SITE

The existing school site is located off Elker Lane with access to the site via two vehicular access roads.

The location of the of the new canopies has been selected due to their positioning within the secure outdoor space but also with their proximity to the to the external panini servery and external dining spaces.

The proposed development has been carefully identified to address both the specific needs of the students and to enhance the school's overall dining facilities. The location plays a critical role in delivering these objectives.

The existing dining room is too small for the number of pupils accessing it during break and lunch times. The original school building was built in 1963 for 500 pupils in which the existing dining room was sufficiently sized. The Schools current number on roll is 1120 pupils which is far in excess of the original. It is envisaged that the new canopies will be utilised at lunchtime to alleviate the pressures already faced on the existing facility.

The site is bordered by 2.4m high security fencing and access controlled gates.

The site is not within a conservation area and there are no trees located within the development area.



Image 1: Site Location



Image 2 & 3: Location of Panini & Walkway Canopies – as existing photographs



Image 4 & 5: Location of Alfresco Canopies – as existing photographs

3.0 USE

St Augustine's RC High School is a secondary roman catholic academy (11-16 years) school.

Currently, the school lacks a appropriately equipped space for dining which is creating behavioural and health issues. The canopies will provide a shelter for pupils to dine at lunchtime but also socialise during breaks.

4.0 SCALE

The site proposals look to remain in-keeping with the other canopies present on site. The height of the canopies will be no taller than the adjacent buildings.

Following various design iterations during the concept development stage, the final proposals have been prepared to meet the Schools spatial requirements whilst appropriate for their context and scale of the site. The proposed height of the canopies is 2.4m / 2.6m at the eaves rising to 3.4m / 4.2m. In comparison to the adjacent school buildings, the proposals are an appropriate scale to not impose on their surroundings.

5.0 AMOUNT

Functionality was the key objective in developing the proposals to ensure the layout allows for all the necessary accommodation. Given the size of the site, and as noted in **Section 4.0**, the appropriate scale of the canopies within this context, the barrel vaulted roof system was deemed the best solution.

No parking or useable space will be displaced by the proposals, nor are additional parking spaces required.

6.0 APPEARANCE

The proposals developed look to sit within their context, complimenting the adjacent buildings and local architectural environment. Given the intended use of the space as covered dining space and the need for functionality and durability, a maintenance free canopy system is proposed. This will allow a pre-fabricated construction that will minimise the risk or impact to the existing site or surrounding areas.

It is proposed that the building will be cladded externally with Trespa Pura PU17 Aged Ash, with a flat roof and Anthracite UPVC Windows and Aluminium Doors. For an overview of the proposed materials, please refer to the table below:

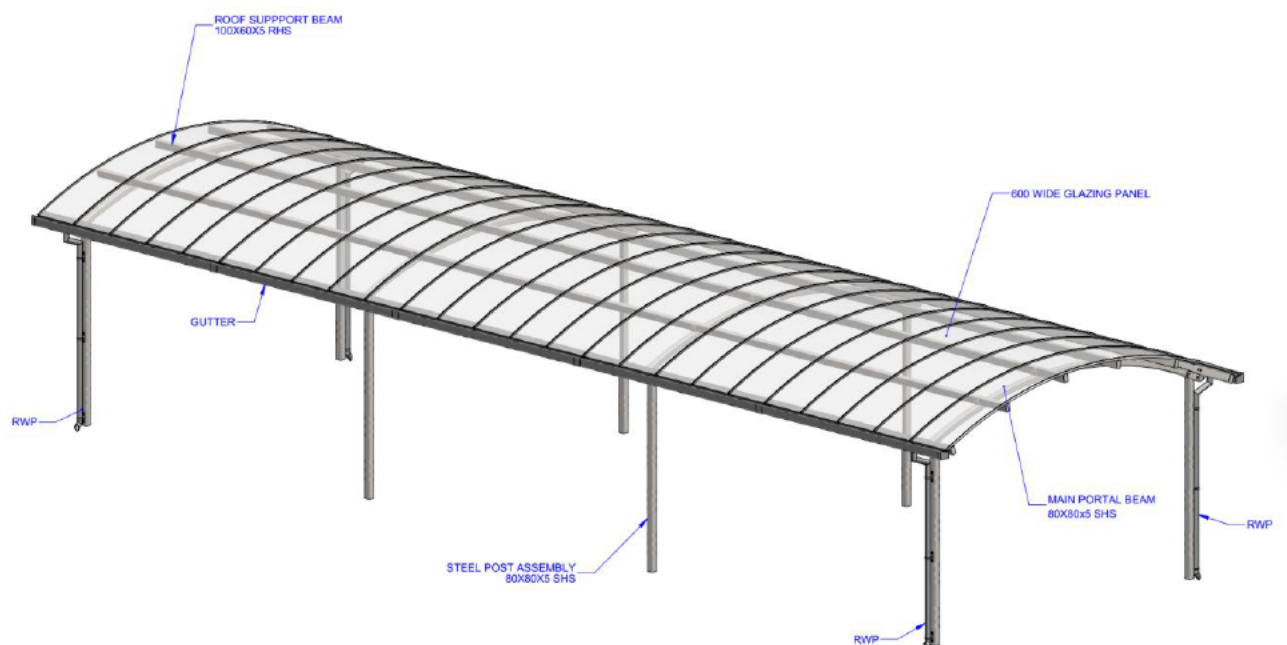


Image 6: Proposed Canopy: Alfresco 1

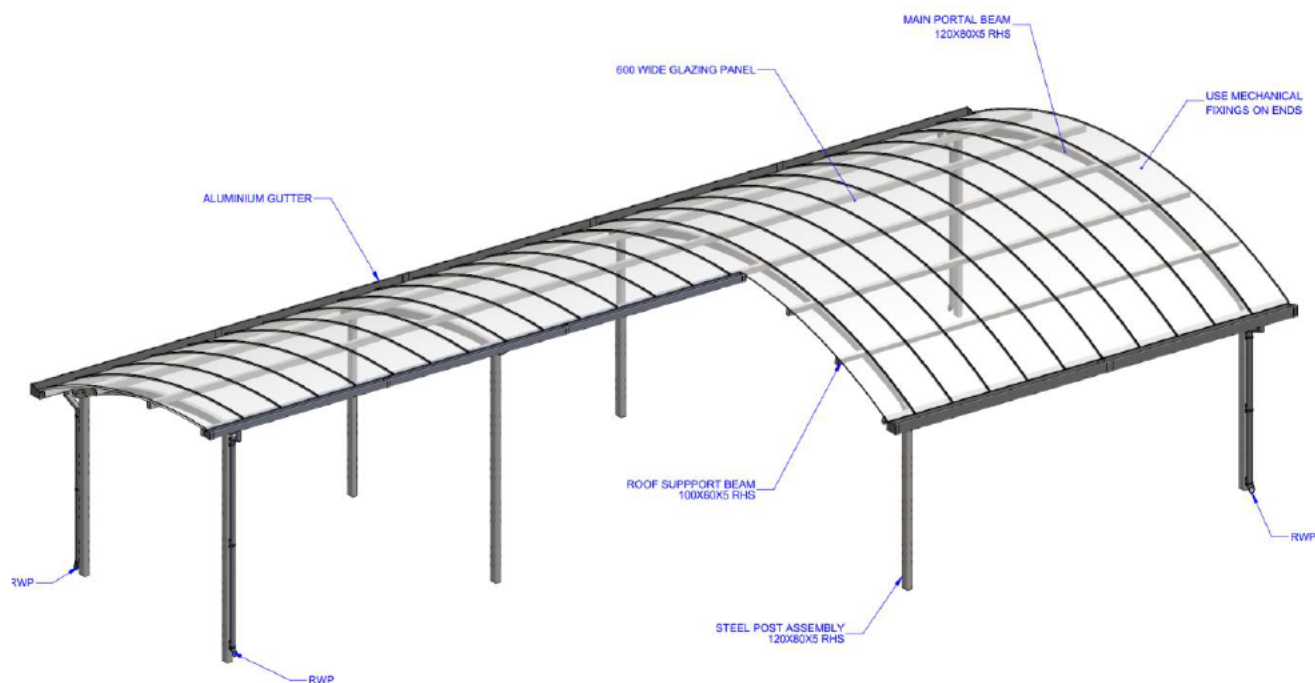


Image 7: Proposed Canopy: Alfresco 2

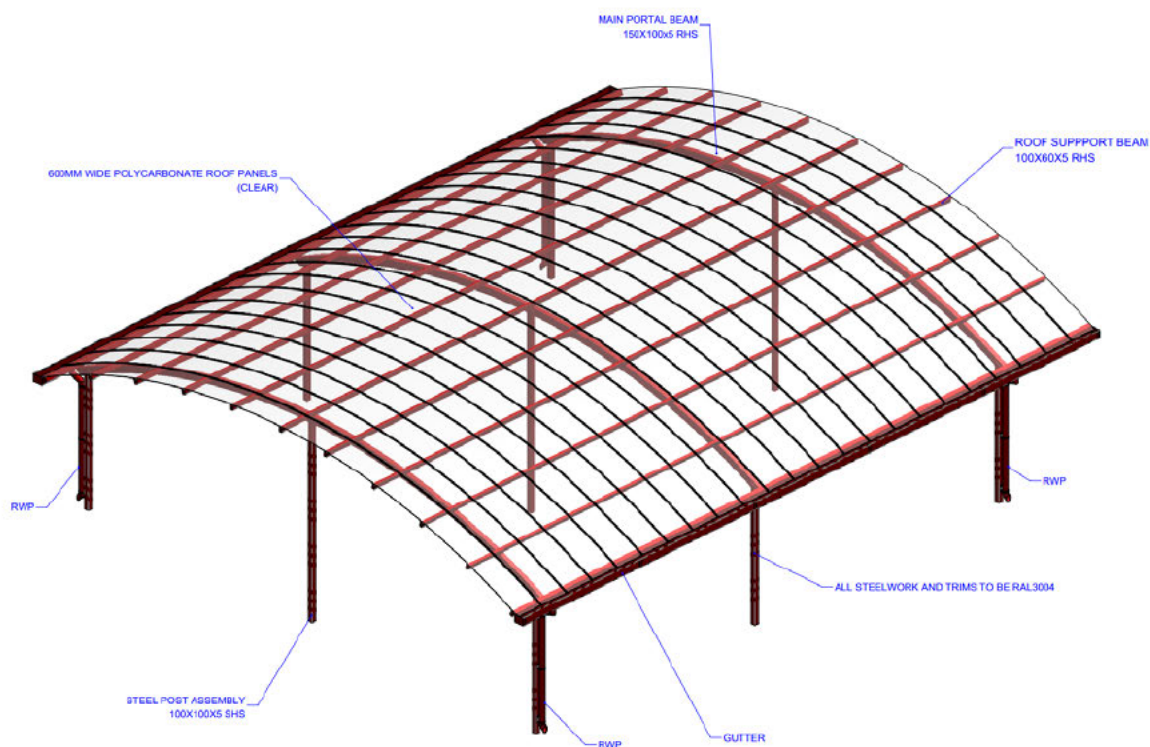


Image 8: Proposed Canopy: Panini

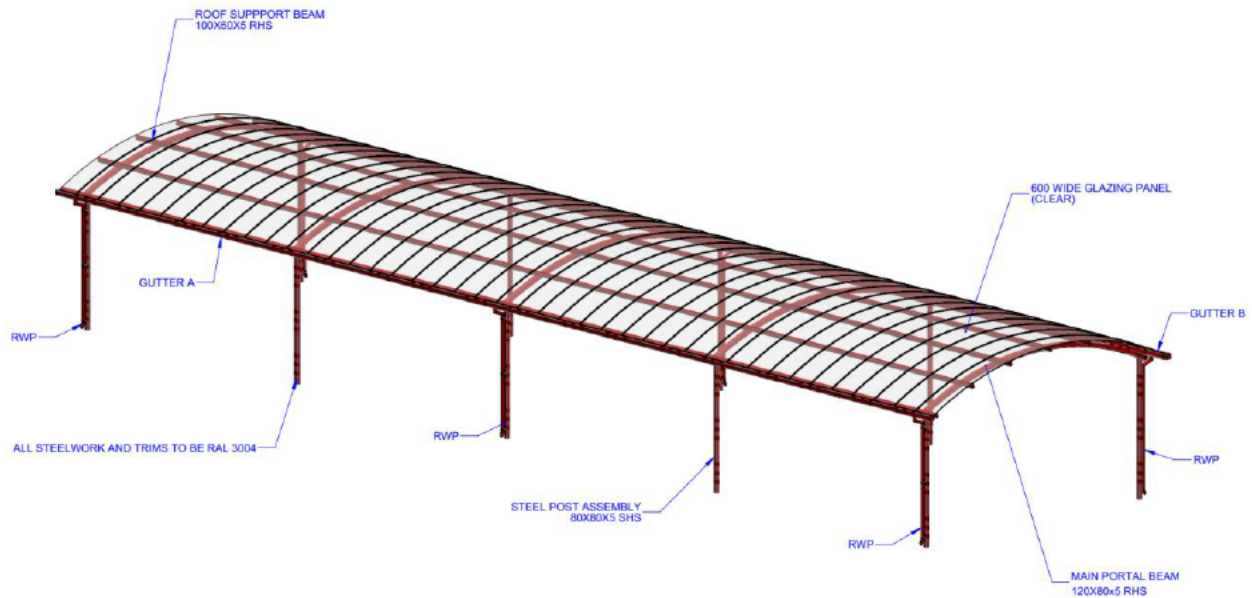


Image 9: Proposed Canopy: Allotment

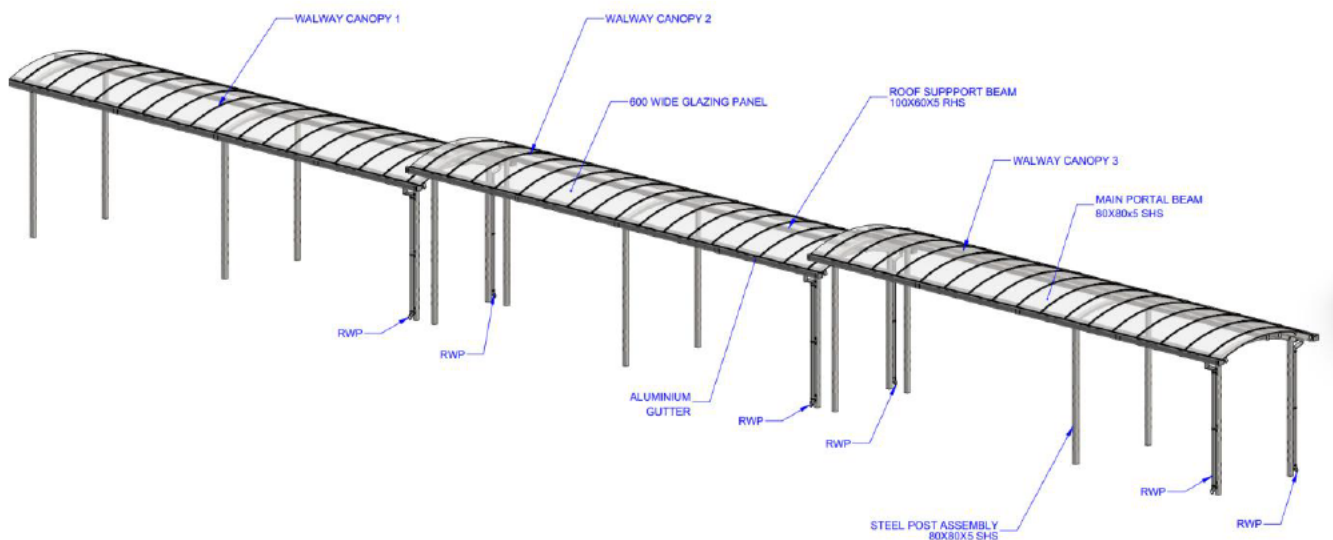


Image 10: Proposed Canopy: Walkway

Element	Existing	Proposed	Key considerations
Roof	NA	Clear structured polycarbonate sheet (multiwall)	
Structural Frame	NA	Powder-coated steel frame RAL 3004	Colour / finish of framework to match with surrounding materials in the area.

7.0 LAYOUT

A primary consideration for the proposals was the need to work within the existing site constraints, minimising the disturbance to the surroundings and maintaining access through the site. The layout devised allows for the canopies to be installed above existing hardstanding surfaces. The access routes through the car park remain unaffected by the works.

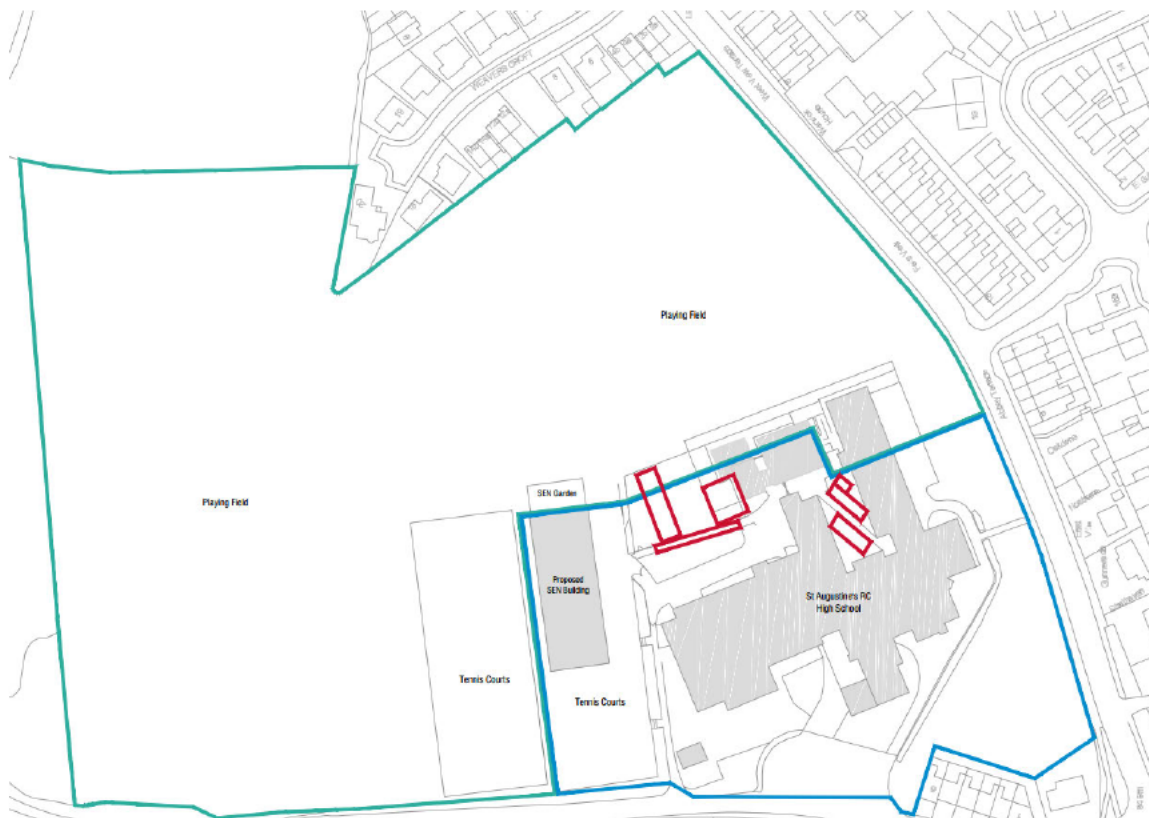


Image 11: Proposed Site Plan

8.0 ACCESS

There are currently 2No. vehicular access points into the existing site, both off Elker Lane. Pedestrian access is gained from Elker Lane adjacent to the main entrance gates and Whalley Road. There are designated footpaths and pedestrian crossings that will remain unaffected by the works.

Vehicular access will also remain unaffected into the existing staff car parks.

9.0 LANDSCAPING

No landscaping works are proposed as part of the application.

9.1 FLOOD RISK

The site is not located within Flood Zone and is therefore classified as having a 'low' risk flooding from tidal and/or fluvial sources. The site is considered to be low risk of flooding from surface water and all other assessed sources.

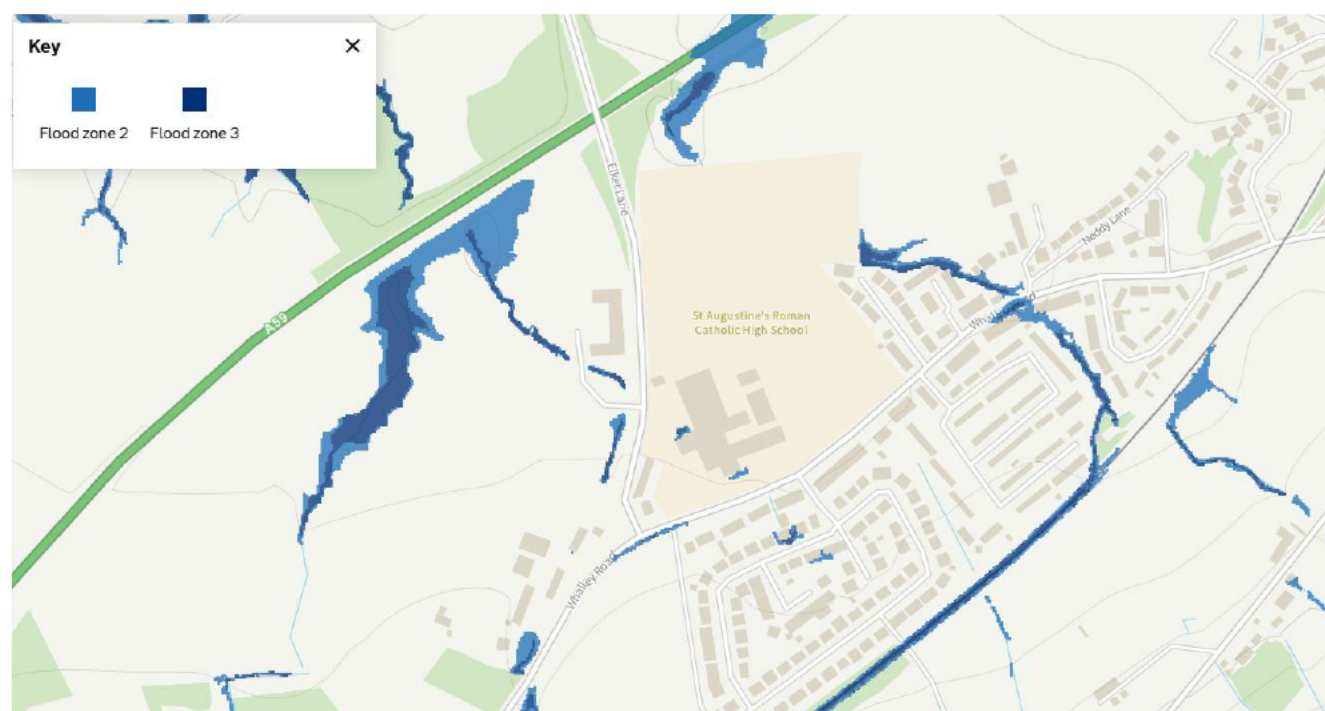


Image 12: Flood Zone

9.2 DRAINAGE

- The surface water drainage hierarchy has been considered and the preferred drainage solution for disposal of surface water is to discharge into the existing private sewer via below ground gravity network.

9.3 GROUNDWORKS

A ground investigation survey has not been completed.

10.0 SUSTAINABILITY

As part of this planning application, an Ecological Assessment has not been undertaken.

10.1 ECOLOGICAL

The Biodiversity Net Gain and Statutory Biodiversity Metric is not applicable to this application.

None of the hedgerows around the site perimeter were considered important under the Hedgerow Regulations (1997).

Whilst bats, badgers and common species of amphibian are known to occur in the local area, there was no conclusive evidence of any specifically protected species regularly occurring on the site or the surrounding areas which would be negatively affected by site development following the mitigation proposed.

Contractors will be observant for protected species and all nesting birds. Should any species be found during construction, all site works should cease and further ecological advice should be sought with a view to a detailed method statement and programme of mitigation measures being prepared and implemented.

10.2 AIR QUALITY

An air quality assessment has not been undertaken for this proposal.

11.0 HERITAGE ASSETS

There are no known heritage assets within the vicinity of the site.

